H.R. 3742—A BILL TO AUTHORIZE ERECTION OF A WORLD WAR II VETERANS' MEMORIAL AND MUSEUM

HEARING

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
HOUSING AND MEMORIAL AFFAIRS

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDREDTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

APRIL 21, 1988

Printed for the use of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

Serial No. 100-43

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
85-352 ⇆ WASHINGTON : 1988

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Congressional Sales Office
U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402

H761-32

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

G.V. (SONNY) MONTGOMERY, Mississippi, *Chairman*

DON EDWARDS, California
DOUGLAS APPLEGATE, Ohio
DAN MICA, Florida
WAYNE DOWDY, Mississippi
LANE EVANS, Illinois
MARCY KAPTUR, Ohio
TIMOTHY J. PENNY, Minnesota
HARLEY O. STAGGERS, Jr., West Virginia
J. ROY ROWLAND, Georgia
JOHN BRYANT, Texas
JAMES J. FLORIO, New Jersey
KENNETH J. GRAY, Illinois
PAUL E. KANJORSKI, Pennsylvania
TOMMY F. ROBINSON, Arkansas
CHARLES W. STENHOLM, Texas
CLAUDE HARRIS, Alabama
JOSEPH P. KENNEDY, II, Massachusetts
ELIZABETH J. PATTERSON, South Carolina
TIM JOHNSON, South Dakota
JIM JONTZ, Indiana

GERALD B.H. SOLOMON, New York
JOHN PAUL HAMMERSCHMIDT, Arkansas
CHALMERS P. WYLIE, Ohio
BOB STUMP, Arizona
BOB McEWEN, Ohio
CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH, New Jersey
DAN BURTON, Indiana
MICHAEL BILIRAKIS, Florida
THOMAS J. RIDGE, Pennsylvania
JOHN G. ROWLAND, Connecticut
ROBERT K. DORNAN, California
ROBERT C. SMITH, New Hampshire
JACK DAVIS, Illinois

MACK FLEMING, *Chief Counsel and Staff Director*

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND MEMORIAL AFFAIRS

MARCY KAPTUR, Ohio, *Chairman*

J. ROY ROWLAND, Georgia
CLAUDE HARRIS, Alabama
ELIZABETH J. PATTERSON, South Carolina
JAMES J. FLORIO, New Jersey

DAN BURTON, Indiana
JOHN G. ROWLAND, Connecticut
ROBERT C. SMITH, New Hampshire
JACK DAVIS, Illinois

CONTENTS

April 21, 1988

Page

H.R. 3742—A Bill to Authorize Erection of a World War II Veterans' Memorial and Museum 1

OPENING STATEMENTS

Chairwoman Kaptur 1
Hon. Dan Burton 3

WITNESSES

Bland, Albert J. national commander, American Ex-prisoners of War 15
  Prepared statement of Mr. Bland, with attachment 45
DeGeorge, Frank R. associate legislative director, Paralyzed Veterans of America 13
  Prepared statement of Mr. DeGeorge 41
Gaskin, Kenneth A. chairman, World War II National Victory Memorial Committee 23
  Prepared statement of Mr. Gaskin 67
Gresham, Robert E. assistant executive director for operations, National Capital Planning Commission 19
  Prepared statement of Mr. Gresham 56
Oakar, Hon. Mary Rose a Representative in Congress from the State of Ohio; and chairwoman, Subcommittee on Libraries and Memorials, House Administration Committee 4
  Prepared statement of Hon. Mary Rose Oakar 33
Ryan, Col. William E. U.S. Army, director, operations and finance, American Battle Monuments Commission; accompanied by Col Frederick C. Badger, U.S. Army, director, engineering and maintenance 18
  Prepared statement of the American Battle Monuments Commission 54
Schultz, Richard F. associate national legislative director, Disabled American Veterans 12
  Prepared statement of Mr. Schultz 39
Thorson, Gordon R. special assistant, national legislative service, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States 15
  Prepared statement of Mr. Thorson 44
Turnage, Thomas K. Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, Veterans' Administration 8
  Prepared statement of Administrator Turnage 37

MATERIAL SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD

Article:
  "3 Sites Considered for World War II Memorial," Air Force Times, submitted by Kenneth A. Gaskin, World War II National Victory Memorial Committee 69
Bill:
H.R. 3742—To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize erection of a memorial and museum on Federal land in the District of Columbia or its environs to honor members of the Armed Forces who served in World War II and to commemorate United States participation in that conflict 27

Page

Statements:
- AMVETS 59
- Non Commissioned Officers Association 62
- The American Legion 63
- Department of the Army 64
- The Commission of Fine Arts 65

Statistical Data:
- "American Prisoners of War in WWI, WWII, Korea and Vietnam," submitted by Charles A. Stenger, American Ex-Prisoners of War Association 48

H.R. 3742—A BILL TO AUTHORIZE ERECTION OF A WORLD WAR II VETERANS' MEMORIAL AND MUSEUM

THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 1988

U.S. House of Representatives,
Subcommittee on Housing and Memorial Affairs,
Committee on Veterans' Affairs,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 10:35 a.m., in room 334, Cannon House Office Building, Hon. Marcy Kaptur (chairwoman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Present: Representatives Kaptur, Rowland of Georgia, Patterson, Burton, and Davis.

Also Present: Representative Dornan.

OPENING STATEMENT OF CHAIRWOMAN KAPTUR

Miss Kaptur. The subcommittee will come to order.

It is with great pleasure that I welcome each of you here this morning. The topic of today's hearing, H.R. 3742, which now has over 109 cosponsors in the House, holds special interest for me personally as chair of the committee and for all of our Members as well.

With the 50th anniversary of the U.S. entry into World War II with the attack on Pearl Harbor only three years away, I believe it is a fitting tribute to those Americans who served their country during World War II to give them a special type of recognition and to create in our Nation's Capital a memorial and a museum that would help our young people understand the largest part of the geopolitical history of this century.

Over 16 million Americans served in our Armed Forces during that conflict. Over 400,000 made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of freedom around the world. World War II profoundly affected the way we live today. The events and the people who participated in that conflict have shaped our economic, political and cultural institutions.

On December 10 of last year I introduced this bill, which directs the American Battle Monuments Commission to establish a memorial and a museum on Federal land in the District of Columbia or its environs, to honor members of the Armed Forces who served in World War II, and to commemorate U.S. participation in that conflict. The Commission will be responsible for planning, designing, constructing, and overseeing the operation of the memorial and museum.

H.R. 3742 provides for the establishment of an advisory board with members appointed by the President, serving a three-year term. Membership will include representatives of veterans' organizations, World War II veterans, World War II historians, and representatives of American historical associations and other organizations knowledgeable about World War II.

The board will be responsible for promoting the establishment of the memorial and museum, encouraging donation of private funds for construction and maintenance, recommending the site, and selecting the design, subject to approval by the Commission.

For the purpose of establishing the memorial and museum, the Commission may solicit and accept private contributions, maintaining proper documentation. As we learned yesterday, with the new museum that is to be opened in Normandy in France on June 6, the largest share of funds there have come through private donations. Funds are to be appropriated, as necessary, for site preparation, design, planning, administrative costs, and for construction and maintenance.

H.R. 3742 allows the Commission to accept the transfer of or purchase any real property in the District of Columbia or its environs.

There are cemeteries and memorials for the American dead of World War II from the Far East to Europe, but there is no single national memorial for the greatest armed conflict in which this Nation has been involved in the 20th century, where the choice between democracy and tyranny was crystal clear. Nowhere is there one place in America to which World War II veterans and generations to come can bring their children and grandchildren and say "Here is the World War II–Veterans' Memorial. These are the reasons for which that war was fought." I believe there should be such a place.

Only a national memorial and museum, located in our Nation's Capital, can pay tribute to those valiant men and women, as well as give a sense of the times, the scope of the war, the numerous actors in that conflict, the multiple issues, goals and objectives that came into play in the war, and, of course, the enduring values to which our participation in that struggle was dedicated.

As we were told yesterday, the museum in France is a cinematography achievement taking you through every facet of World War II from its beginning in 1920. America should have no less.

Future generations of Americans will benefit greatly from the lessons of World War II imparted by this memorial, and will come here to honor the millions of Americans whose sacrifices and bravery contributed to the preservation of democracy and the free world.

I am most anxious to hear the views on this legislation from our distinguished witnesses this morning. Before we hear from our first witness, the Honorable Congresswoman Mary Rose Oakar, of Cleveland, OH, and General Thomas K. Turnage, Administrator of the Veterans' Administration, I would like to recognize the ranking minority member of this subcommittee, Mr. Dan Burton, for his remarks.

OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. DAN BURTON

Mr. **Burton**. Thank you, Madam Chairwoman.

It gives me great pleasure to have the opportunity to make a few remarks about the proposed World War II Veterans' Memorial. Under your able leadership and guidance, this important project is rapidly moving forward. It is, indeed, heartening that we can all work together toward worthy goals without regard to party or ideological differences.

Like the Civil War almost 100 years before it, World War II was a seminal event in our Nation's history. It is certainly tragic that war and bloodshed are often the rites of passage in a free nation's maturity and development. But that, unfortunately, has been our inescapable reality of the course of human events.

The Second World War marked America's final emergence as a world power and leader of the free world. Our present day alliances and entanglements stem in large part from the aftermath of that war.

Because our liberty continues to hang in the balance, it is imperative that we remember the price we paid in World War II and learn the proper lessons from it. Among those are that the price of freedom is often very high; that tyranny unchallenged is tyranny triumphant; that when tested to its utmost, human will and human spirit can meet the harshest challenge; that we must maintain the fortitude, the will, and the resolve to deter aggressive foes who assault human dignity and freedom.

Those who gave their lives in World War II made the supreme sacrifice for the sake of us all. We are forever indebted to them.

A memorial to honor our dead, in what Studs Terkel rightly called "the good war", is long overdue. May it serve as a lesson in history, patriotism, and morality to our young people. May it serve as a beacon of hope for free men and women all over the world. May it, like the Vietnam Memorial, sound a cry of anguish and a tribute to our sons who spilled their precious blood for the worthiest and noblest of causes.

Madam Chairwoman, let me just say that, as always, I feel privileged to be able to work with you and this, and I congratulate you on your sponsorship of this legislation.

Miss **Kaptur**. Thank you, Congressman Burton. It is a pleasure to work with you as well. We seem to move a lot of bills here.

Mr. **Burton**. And good ones.

Miss **Kaptur**. That's right, on a bipartisan basis.

I have a newspaper that was published by the U.S. Armed Forces, August 15, 1945. The headline reads, "War Ends". This came from the memorabilia from my own family, in fact, from my uncle, who fought in the Battle of the Bulge. As we sat there and talked last year on July 4th, I began to think about how future generations would come to know the experiences that he had. And I thought, as he passes on and I pass on, how in the world do you provide for America anything in the way of a lasting tribute, and also an educational experience for generations to come.

I went out to a fish fry in my district during the same period of time and a veteran came up to me and said, "Marcy, how come there's no World War II memorial in Washington, D.C.?" I said, "But, sir, there is. It's called the Iwo Jima." He looked at me and he said, "You're wrong. That's to the Marines. What about everyone else?" I sat back and I thought he's right. And so it was really those two experiences, along with talking with many, many veterans, that have prompted us to draft this bill.

Congresswoman Mary Rose Oakar is with us this morning and we are so pleased to welcome her, because in order for us to move this legislation we have to have hearings and action by the subcommittee that she chairs on Libraries and Memorials in the House Administration Committee. I have to say, Congresswoman Oakar, that your staff and the committee have been so helpful to us.

On June 6 the museum in France will be opening. Our Chairman, Sonny Montgomery, working with members of this committee, as well as Sam Gibbons, who is the representative on that museum's board from the House—Sam fought in the Battle of Normandy—will probably be going over to that event. There will be 12 Allied nations represented. We will send invitations to members of this subcommittee and to other key figures in the House. We want to extend an invitation to you. It's only about four days, and I believe President Reagan will be sending a delegation. It's going to be quite a ceremony. And we will have a chance to tour the museum, the one that I began describing. I think it will give us a better idea of what some of the options are for us as we move forward on this. So we would certainly want to welcome you on that venture. We are glad to have you with us this morning.

STATEMENT OF HON. MARY ROSE OAKAR, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF OHIO; AND CHAIRWOMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON LIBRARIES AND MEMORIALS, HOUSE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Ms. **Oakar**. Thank you, Madam Chair, and members of the committee. You have such a distinguished committee, and I have the pleasure of serving with some of them on other committees. I know they probably have statements, and I am sure that the distinguished member from the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs has a fine statement, so I will ask unanimous consent to submit my entire statement for the record and I will be very brief.

Madam Chair, I certainly am proud of you—Leave it to a woman from Ohio to introduce this legislation. I think we all have relatives and friends who served our country in World War II. Some of these people are probably "notch" babies that some of us feel strongly about as well. I am delighted to be an original cosponsor that would authorize the erection of a memorial and museum on Federal land in the District of Columbia for the Armed Forces who served in World War II.

Madam Chair, I would just like to make a couple of points. In the 99th Congress, I was charged by my Chairman to take a look at all of the memorial legislation. We have hundreds of pieces of legislation that people have introduced relative to putting a memorial for varieties of noble causes in the District of Columbia and its environs.

We looked at several bills introduced, and did pass three of them. It's not easy to get this kind of legislation passed. Mr. Dornan, as a matter of fact, was one of the witnesses that we had. We passed a memorial to the veterans of the Korean conflict, a memorial to all the women who had served in the Armed Forces—they seem to be left out very often, a memorial to the black Revolutionary War patriots, and a memorial to the Armored Force Division in the United States Army.

During the last century there have been—just to give you a perspective on this—111 memorials, monuments, and plaques that have been established on Federal land in the District of Columbia. There's not a whole lot of room left, you know. You see, you have to be very, very selective. So I thought very long and hard about cosponsoring this legislation because I knew it would act as a signal that we would try to do something about it from our committee's end as well.

But just to give you an overview, these commemorative works honor U.S. Presidents, military units, those who served in the Vietnam conflict, the Civil War heroes, Revolutionary War heroes, United States citizens, individuals from foreign countries, and other significant events.

But you're absolutely right in saying that there is not one—really, it's astounding—that there really isn't one memorial that comprehensively expresses the contributions to freedom made by 16 million veterans of World War II. It is true that in the Nation's Capital, as you mentioned, the Iwo Jima Memorial signifies the contributions by the Marine Corps, and in Battery Park in New York City there's a monument to those who lost their lives in the Atlantic during the war. We know that the national cemeteries of our great country, of which this committee has jurisdiction, dot the globe commemorating the hundreds of battles and actions undertaken by those who achieved our victory. But I do really feel strongly that you're on the right track, that we ought to have some memorial relating to the defense of freedom.

I also feel that a museum dedicated to this era would symbolize many, many things. It would symbolize the efforts of veterans, living and deceased. It would symbolize the contributions of our Allied counterparts.

I'm an old school teacher, and one of the things I think we're missing is a sense of history in terms of our past, the contributions of so many young people to that conflict in order that our freedom was saved. I think that the lessons of World War II in a memorial and museum of this stature would be very, very important for future generations.

Nobody glorifies war. That wouldn't be the purpose of it, obviously. But what we want to show is what can happen when we don't strive for peace. I think it is so important to do this, and so important to say "thank you" to individuals who served during that era.

I guess my first memories in my life were of World War II. I'm one of those World War II babies and I remember the mail that would come to our home, that was blacked out, from my uncles and relatives, and how anguished my mother was relative to her family who served in that war. I remember the great sense of relief that I, as a child, experienced when World War II ended and how much fear and anxiety the country had about that period. I honestly can remember those early days of my life as well as some of the events that happened this week.

So it seems to me that lots of young people, who are a lot younger than I and those of us on the panel, don't have a sense of what that was all about. Their recollections are more of the Vietnam era, I would think. I think the combination that you're trying to strike, of having a memorial and a museum, that would be a catalyst for other kinds of memorabilia from other conflicts, is really on the right track. I think Washington, D.C. is the place to do it. As much as we would like to have it in other areas of the country, it seems to me that just today, when you see all the young people, their schools, their parents and older people as well coming to Washington to take advantage of our museums, that are free and open, we ought to do that.

I think you are to be complimented for providing that leadership, and I want to support you, Marcy, and the members of this committee in any way that I can. I think this committee acts on so many fine pieces of legislation that this would just complement the good work that you are already doing.

Thank you, Madam Chair.

[The prepared statement of Hon. Mary Rose Oakar appears at p. 33.]

Miss KAPTUR. Congresswoman Oakar, thank you so much for your testimony this morning and for your willingness to help us. I will make sure the staff gets to you the packet that every one of the members has here, which is the packet describing the memorial, for the Battle of Normandy, which is a museum for peace.

I wanted to introduce someone in the audience. He is a retired colonel from the U.S. Army, Col. Thomas Garrigan, if you would be kind enough just to stand. This is the gentleman who is the Director of Military and Veterans Affairs for the U.S. Committee for the Battle of Normandy Museum. He has been very involved in assembling some of these materials and I know he will be in Normandy with us on June 6.

We thank you very much for being here today.

Ms. OAKAR. Thank you, Madam Chair.

Miss KAPTUR. Congressman Dornan.

Mr. DORNAN. I think it is just worth commenting why this is a worthy project in comparison to what some other countries do.

When any Member of our great Congress visits Leningrad, which used to be Stalingrad, you see a statue there to victory, that is larger than the Statue of Liberty, on the outskirts of the city, a female figure with a raised sword. It just dominates the landscape. It's stunning.

But the most beautiful memorial to the dead, in what the Russians call the "Great Patriotic War"—they don't even call it World War II—is the Leningrad museum and memorial, a combination. It shows you that you can always find space. It's the main road coming into the city from the airport. They dug out in that square a huge underground museum. Inside it is circled with a million tiny electric lights, symbolizing an electric light for every person that died during the 900-day siege. They have diaries that are pierced with bullets, other objects that were off people's bodies that saved their lives that were struck with bullets, photographs of young men and young women, the whole story of the siege.

On the outside of the memorial, in the center, is a huge victory figure. At all four corners they solved the problem of who gets memorialized. There is one corner of a group of young fighter pilots going out to their airplanes. At another corner is a navy memorial. At another corner is one to the army, and another corner to the civilians that survived the siege.

I'm sure there would have been "esthetes", esthetic people, saying this is a bit much, but it's overwhelming. But I think if the Soviets can recognize for their people that their existence against the Nazi onslaught was owed to the young men and women, and some not so young, who had drained their blood into their own soil, that we can do the same here.

There is a beautiful World War I memorial that I was not aware of until I was killing time in front of the Willard Hotel. I walked across the street to see this memorial to World War I, and there I could see the names of battles that my father had fought in, the whole course of the war, every single American division that served there. Just to go from a large map, and then to theater sector maps, you learn a great deal about World War I.

Now, there are two memorials that were put in after World War I to the 1st Division, which is right in front of the Old Executive Office Building, and then a beautiful flaming sword to the 2nd Division right on Constitution Avenue, just off the ellipse, very close to the Vietnam Memorial. They were updated with the battles that the 1st and 2nd Divisions had—and the 2nd Division is still overseas after all these years—the battles that they participated in in World War II and then they added the major Korean battles. So the Army is fairly represented.

The new Navy Memorial, which is stunning, on Pennsylvania Avenue, they're going to build a beautiful apartment complex around there. I think we all concede that those will be the most prized living quarters in this city, the condominium apartments that will go right in behind that.

You can always find room in a great city to memorialize those who, with their very blood, made the life of that city and the nation possible. So I hope that we select a dominant point of interest, with much traffic, in this city, and that we figure out a way, without listening too much to those esthetic voices that say a tiny, simple, little marble cube somewhere will do—I don't understand why the Democrats ever allowed the Roosevelt memorial to be a tiny plaque in front of the Archives Building. Teddy Roosevelt got a whole island out there in the Potomac. He was a Republican and maybe it was a Republican administration that did that.

But I hope that this memorial at least comes a tiny way toward approaching the glorious memorial at what was once Stalingrad, and the one memorializing the 900-day siege against Adolph Hitler's onslaught on Leningrad, and that all sections—air, land and sea—are represented somehow in a beautiful World War II memorial and museum.

Thank you. I'm going to join you on D-day.

Miss **Kaptur**. We have a vote on the rule now for House Resolution 430 to consider the Trade Bill. So it's a vote on the rule.

General Turnage, how are you doing on time this morning, if I were to just recess the committee here for a few minutes to go vote?

Administrator TURNAGE. Certainly I will await your pleasure.

Mr. DAVIS. Do you intend to take a vote this morning on the bill by roll call, or should I leave my proxy?

Miss KAPTUR. No. We were just holding hearings this morning. We won't have markup until May, Jack, so you will be okay.

Mr. DAVIS. Thank you.

Miss KAPTUR. I apologize for doing this to you, General, but we would really like to hear your testimony.

Administrator TURNAGE. I understand.

Miss KAPTUR. We'll be right back.

[Whereupon, the subcommittee was in recess.]

Miss KAPTUR. The committee will reconvene, please.

We certainly want to welcome General Thomas Turnage, the Administrator of the Veterans' Administration, but as importantly, a World War II veteran. We welcome your testimony this morning, General. Thank you for waiting.

STATEMENT OF GEN. THOMAS K. TURNAGE, ADMINISTRATOR OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS, VETERANS' ADMINISTRATION

Administrator TURNAGE. Thank you, Madam Chairwoman.

At the outset, when we had to chance to greet personally this morning, I told you that that was one of my wars, and I promised to be objective and not emotional or parochial.

Miss KAPTUR. We accept both.

Administrator TURNAGE. I very much appreciate being asked to present the views of the Veterans' Administration on H.R. 3742, your bill to establish a World War II veterans memorial and museum in the Nation's capital. Let the record show that we at VA heartily endorse the concept of memorializing the contributions and sacrifices made by those who served America during this war.

By enacting Public Law 99-572, Congress has authorized a memorial to Korean conflict veterans which will complement the existing Vietnam Veterans' Memorial. It is only fitting then, it seems to me, that there will be a suitable commemoration as well of those who served during our greatest armed conflict in terms of both members under arms and casualties sustained.

The Second World War was the most pivotal event of this century. In successfully resisting those who would have imposed global tyranny, the United States was vaulted into a position of world leadership and her ideals of liberty and self-determination were fostered internationally as never before.

To physically memorialize the accomplishments of the millions of servicemen and women who defended America's very existence in that war would tangibly signify this Nation's enduring gratitude. The veterans of that war and their survivors richly deserve the appreciation of their countrymen in perpetuity, an appreciation which would surely be furthered by a fitting memorial.

It is extremely important, too, that the enormity of the cost, in terms of human life and suffering, of what we all hope is the last great global conflict, is not lost on future generations.

Madam Chairwoman, while we at the VA endorse the general thrust of this proposal, we must defer to other executive branch agencies more directly affected as to the specifics of how the undertaking should be accomplished. We do offer two recommendations of a technical nature concerning the bill as currently drafted. First, we recommend that title 36 of the U.S. Code, rather than title 38, be amended, as that is where the remainder of the American Battle Monuments Commission's duties are specified. Second, rather than authorizing the VA to provide the Commission with administrative support on a reimbursable basis, it would be preferable if the ABMC were authorized sufficient resources to fulfill its responsibilities in-house.

Thank you again for your kind invitation and the opportunity to make this statement to your committee.

[The prepared statement of Administrator Turnage appears at p. 37.]

Miss Kaptur. Thank you, General, very much.

Could I ask you, if the ABMC were to be provided sufficient funds in-house as the Veterans' Administration recommends, rather than authorizing the VA to provide the ABMC with administrative support on a reimbursable basis, if that proved to be the case, do you envision any role or any involvement on the part of the VA in this project?

Administrator Turnage. Yes. I think it would be more moral and supportive in other ways than a technical or statutory type support. For example, in the case of the Korean memorial and the establishment of the Commission and so forth, we were asked for advice as to the breadth and scope and credentials of those who might serve on that Commission.

Similarly, we think a role might be important for us with Presidential personnel relating to the composition of the Commission, as you suggest in your bill. There are other interfaces that we have with all kinds of veterans' activities, as you appreciate, by virtue of your responsible role on the committee, as well as the subcommittee. We would provide any kind of support in that vein that we could.

Miss Kaptur. Would you personally wish to participate as a member of the advisory board, assuming we can get this bill moved along?

Administrator Turnage. Oh, indeed. I would do so actively, I would do so officially, or I would do so in an informal way, because I believe in this and I think it's a worthwhile endeavor that we should support fully. I would do that.

Miss Kaptur. One of the issues that will come up during markup, I think, is the size of the advisory board or the Commission itself. I think one of the veterans' organizations is suggesting that the number that is in our bill, 25, be made smaller.

One of the reasons we made it at this level of about two dozen people is because we do envision it going beyond a traditional memorial, and we would need additional expertise.

From your experience in serving on boards of this nature, is there a magic number that—

Administrator Turnage. I don't think there's a magic number, but based on what I perceive to be the scope of this operation, and the fact that the funding would be coming from private sources, I believe you would need a broad spectrum of those who had influence or involvement in that war, through organizational structures such as the veterans' service organizations. I would find it unfortunate if some people felt that they were being denied the opportunity to participate simply because of a smaller number on the Commission.

Miss KAPTUR. I wanted to also ask you a general question. This is a hard one.

What do you believe the focus of the memorial and museum should be? Do you think it should only be on U.S. involvement, or do you think it should be more global?

It's interesting. Congresswoman Patterson and I were walking over here together and she remarked that she had a thousand ideas, just sitting there this morning and thinking about this. She said it should really be a museum to freedom which focuses on World War II, but starts much earlier than World War II. I said that's what I understand the museum in France does. I haven't seen that one yet. She said she also hoped it didn't just focus on death, but that it would focus on freedom and what came from the struggle and the fighting. I thought those were some interesting insights that she had.

From your thinking on this, and your personal involvement, what do you think the impression should be that it leaves on those people that come and visit?

Administrator TURNAGE. I think when visitors leave there, they should have a feeling of having been inspired. It should be an inspirational thing. It should underscore the contribution that was made by the nation in defense of its freedom.

But, once again, I don't think that could be achieved in a vacuum, in the sense that we fought that war as part of a conglomerate of nations, working together to achieve the same objective. I don't think that we should limit it simply to our participation because that would give a wrong perspective, in my personal view.

Having been to a number of memorials in different parts of the world and observed them, I noted, in visiting one in Korea, where they had been successful in achieving the objective that you suggest, but at the same time pointing out the vital role that we had played and some of the other United Nations had played in the achievement of their freedom. It had become a focal point for young people in the nation. As a matter of fact, the day I visited there, it was filled with young people. It followed a pattern of the development of the war and ultimately the outcome, and some of the crucial events that occurred during the war, and then ultimately the achievements of the nation that had occurred since that time. I left highly impressed with that.

Miss KAPTUR. This was in South Korea?

Administrator TURNAGE. In South Korea.

So the people who participated in that and would visit it left with a view that, while there had been, in effect, this holocaust that had occurred during a certain time in the history of the nation, this is what ultimately had evolved. People left there—at least I did—with a great feeling about it. I would hope a similar type result could be achieved in what you suggest.

I recognize in this city there is a premium placed on space available for these kinds of things, as mentioned by Ms. Oakar earlier. But on the other hand, if we do this, I would hope we do it within the perspective that this was the biggest war in which we've ever participated, with the greatest number of people, with the greatest number of casualties, with the greatest cost yet, with the greatest positive result for our Nation. I believe that people who are more expert certainly than I in this field could develop the scheme that would allow us to come out not with a feeling of the devastation of the war, but an exhilaration resulting from the accomplishment, of what it did achieve for us as a Nation in the world of nations.

Miss **Kaptur**. You're very eloquent. You definitely have to help us.

I think one of the finest courses I ever took in my college career was one on the history of World War II taught by a Dr. Kale from the University of Wisconsin. To take that course is really to take a course in the history of the 20th century. I often have thought about other students who didn't have that rich opportunity to sit in on something like that. Not having fought the war, obviously—I was born in 1946—I think that course had a major impact on my own development and my own understanding of the geopolitical world in which we live.

I think after being elected to Congress and coming here to Washington, and going through all the different memorials and museums, I have been shocked, that we seem to be good at collecting artifacts—First Ladies' gowns, for example, in the Museum of American History, or we have a great Air and Space Museum on the technology of the 20th century and air flight—but we really don't teach much about our own geopolitical history and some of the major struggles that have involved our basic freedoms. That has been one of the shocking lessons that I have learned as a Member of Congress.

Congresswoman Oakar had to take pictures with high school students before she came to the hearing this morning. It's amazing how many young people come through this city. They are impressed with its majesty, but I have often wanted to give them a test after they leave. They know that George Washington was our first President, they visit the Lincoln Memorial, they visit the Jefferson Memorial, but what besides air flight is left in their minds for the 20th century when they leave this city? I'm not so sure. That troubles me.

Administrator **Turnage**. With your indulgence, it wasn't my intent, but I would like to share with you that I served in World War II in a unique capacity, in that I served in Europe until the war was over there, and then I was redeployed to the Pacific and I ended up in Japan, having gone down through the South Pacific into Japan for that part of it, and served in the occupation there until 1946. I saw the perspective of both sides and the scope of involvement that our Nation had.

Yet I also saw not only their involvement in the war itself, but the constructive measures that were taken to help reconstruct these nations which were former enemies into a posture where now they're leaders in the world in so many technological advances and otherwise.

Then also I was called back to Korea in 1950 and I saw what happened to that country. If you have visited there in the last few years, you will be overwhelmed at the progress they have made simply because of our contribution to their freedom and their current stature in the world. So I think when someone is quick to criticize this Nation for its aggressiveness or for some other language which I find reprehensible, it seems to me they should go back and analyze history and think of the contributions that this Nation has made, and the fact that there are still a great number of people out there who remember that contribution and are grateful for what America has done, not only for itself but for the other nations of the world.

Miss KAPTUR. You have raised a very good point on the rebuilding of Japan. I am reminded of a gentleman from Toledo who recently died, who was a captain in the Army responsible for the whole rebuilding of the railroads in Japan. You have reminded me about the Marshall Plan. Even though it was post-1945, that should definitely be a part of this record because it has a lot to do with the way this Nation has behaved.

Administrator TURNAGE. In conclusion, please let me compliment you for your initiative in putting this bill forth. I wish you well.

Miss KAPTUR. Thank you very much, General. We appreciate your testimony.

We are very fortunate this morning to have the opportunity to view a videotape prepared by the U.S. Committee for the Battle of Normandy Museum. We have two video machines set up here.

We had an excellent briefing from representatives of that committee yesterday. The museum will be opening in early June in France and we appear to share the common goal of providing an educational history of World War II. I'm sure we will all enjoy this presentation, which takes about 12 minutes.

Since we seem to be having a problem in getting the tape to work, why don't we insert this between our next two panels. While we're waiting, we will call up the next panel, which is Mr. Rick Schultz, Associate National Legislative Director, Disabled American Veterans; Mr. Frank DeGeorge, Associate Legislative Director, Paralyzed Veterans of America; Mr. Gordon Thorson, Special Assistant, National Legislative Service, Veterans of Foreign Wars; and Mr. Albert J. Bland, National Commander, American Ex-Prisoners of War.

Thank you, gentlemen, for waiting this morning and for being with us. All of your testimony will be entered in the record in full. Mr. Schultz, perhaps we could start with you this morning. Welcome. It's good to have you with us.

STATEMENT OF RICHARD F. SCHULTZ, ASSOCIATE NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR, DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

Mr. SCHULTZ. Thank you, Madam Chairwoman.

On behalf of the more than 1.1 million members of the Disabled American Veterans and its ladies auxiliary, I certainly appreciate this opportunity to present our views on H.R. 3742.

At the outset, we wish to commend you for your efforts to establish this memorial and museum commemorating our Nation's involvement in World War II. Achieving this worthy goal will assure that all Americans and our many visitors will have a single location to visit and reflect upon the enormous cost of this global war, both in terms of human suffering and lives lost, as well as how World War II changed our entire world.

Madam Chairwoman, there is no doubt that World War II is one of the most significant events in history affecting this entire Nation. Clearly, the sacrifices of our military men and women during World War II are well-documented. There exists literature on the many battles of World War II and about the individuals who fought in these battles. Many motion pictures have been produced immortalizing our war heroes and their famous battles.

While the DAV has no specific convention mandate regarding H.R. 3742, I can say that we certainly support and applaud your efforts to provide recognition in our Nation's capital for the men and women who served our Nation during World War II. Erection of this memorial and museum we believe is a fitting and proper way to honor those who served America during this most historic period.

This concludes my oral remarks, Madam Chairwoman, and I would be pleased to answer any questions you may have.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Schultz appears at p. 39.]

Miss Kaptur. All right. We will hold questions for the moment and move on to Mr. DeGeorge. Welcome.

STATEMENT OF FRANK R. DEGEORGE, ASSOCIATE LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR, PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA

Mr. DeGeorge. Good morning, and thank you, Madam Chairwoman.

On behalf of PVA, I also want to take this opportunity to thank and commend you for introducing H.R. 3742 and to also thank the over 100 Members of Congress as cosponsors of the bill for their significant bipartisan support.

PVA supports passage of H.R. 3742. We strongly agree with you that such a fitting tribute to the men and women who have served their country during World War II is long overdue.

Individually, as in any war, the men and women who served were proud and honored to do so, without any intent whatsoever to be recognized or memorialized. However, collectively, it is the Nation that has a responsibility to appropriately recognize those Americans who served in the Nation's Armed Forces during the period of World War II, and moreover, to recognize the war dead who made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of freedom around the world.

The National Park Service, nationwide and locally, and the American Battle Monuments Commission, the Veterans' Administration, the Department of Defense, and separate branches of the military, have all provided some recognition of the efforts of World War II provided by our military, but as you so correctly stated, there are cemeteries and memorials for American dead of World War II from the Far East to Europe, but there is no single national memorial for the greatest armed conflict in which the Nation has been involved in the 20th century.

PVA strongly endorses the intent of this legislation, but we must also comment on several provisions contained in it. First, H.R. 3742 establishes a World War II Memorial and Museum Advisory Board. It is gratifying to PVA that members of the board shall include representatives of veterans' organizations. It is important to mention that the Advisory Board, once it is established, be aware of the law that ensures physical accessibility and accommodations to public buildings, which include national monuments visited and used by the public.

In this regard, PVA offers our services when this legislation is enacted into law, where PVA has been recognized in helping to eliminate architectural barriers that confront elderly and disabled individuals. PVA has consulted on many projects to ensure accessibility and the elimination of architectural barriers that do confront disabled and elderly persons. Accessibility of the World War II memorial and museum dedicated to veterans, many of whom are disabled, is essential.

PVA, for many reasons, suggests that the board consist of a lesser number of appointees, as the number of 25 members could be unwieldy, even for meeting purposes. PVA believes the board should not consist of more than 15 members. I would also point out, by your previous comments, that this is a recommended number and we're not set on that number. I would also make the point that we feel the Advisory Board would probably fill this room if everybody that wanted to be on it, and who all have the same interest~~,~~—to ensure that the museum and memorial is built. So we are not trying to diminish the activity but make it a workable board.

PVA further recommends for future consideration by the Advisory Board that the memorial design should be a living memorial that can be fully utilized by and where the public can congregate.

Considering the funding aspects necessary to construct an appropriate memorial and museum, PVA believes that if every veteran contributed only one dollar, sufficient funds can be raised. However, we are deeply concerned that there are several other ongoing fund raising efforts to build national and international veterans' memorials. This high level of competitive fund raising could diminish efforts to raise the funds necessary to construct any of these important projects. We would urge the government to authorize and appropriate, in accordance with the magnitude of the project, the funds necessary to begin the project.

The legislation, as currently written, does not state precisely the amount of government funding to be provided. We think it should be no less than the amount of funding provided the Korean War Veterans Memorial.

Finally, I would point out that the museum aspects of the memorial should also recognize the national effort of America's citizens, for example, to include the Merchant Marines, the Women Corps, including all branches of the military, the Red Cross, the ship builders, and yes, "Rosie, the Riverter", which would signify the contributions of not only the service people but the citizens of this Nation as well.

Finally, again, we would like to commend you for presenting and pursuing and having the vision to introduce this legislation. On that note, I would thank you and conclude my statement. I am also prepared and would be happy to answer any questions that you may have.

[The prepared statement of Mr. DeGeorge appears at p. 41.]

Miss **Kaptur**. Thank you, Mr. DeGeorge, very much.

Mr. Thorson.

STATEMENT OF GORDON R. THORSON, SPECIAL ASSISTANT, NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE SERVICE, VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. **Thorson**. Madam Chairwoman, thank you for scheduling this hearing to discuss H.R. 3742. I represent the interests of over 2.9 million men and women of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Ladies Auxiliary. I will be brief and get directly to the point.

A memorial and museum dedicated to honoring those members of the Armed Forces who served in World War II, and to commemorate the United States participation in the war effort, is a very worthy undertaking and would serve to reacquaint this Nation and its children with the horrors of war and the legacy of World War II.

The VFW is prepared to fully participate in any effort to make this vision a reality. Our participation during World War II was an awesome example of this Nation's ability to pull together and totally commit all of our human and economic resources to a single goal: preserving freedom. A monument and museum dedicated to the memory of all those who participated during World War II, both military and civilian, is not only warranted but richly deserved.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Thorson appears at p. 44.]

Miss **Kaptur**. Thank you very much, Mr. Thorson.

Finally, Mr. Bland.

STATEMENT OF ALBERT J. BLAND, NATIONAL COMMANDER, AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR

Mr. **Bland**. Madam Chairwoman, I would like to express my appreciation for being provided the opportunity to address this committee on this legislation and deeply appreciate it. Indeed, we are honored to do so.

As National Commander of the American Ex-Prisoners of War, with a membership of over 30,000, I wish to fully support and speak in favor of H.R. 3742, which in our opinion is long overdue.

World War II killed more people, cost more money, damaged more property, affected more people, and probably caused more far-reaching changes than any other war in history. It opened the atomic age and brought sweeping changes in warfare. The number of people killed, wounded or missing between September, 1939 and September, 1945, can never be calculated. It is reported that there were approximately 405,399 killed, 670,846 wounded, 130,201 captured and interned, 78,077 missing in action. The above does not include the Merchant Marine casualties, which were 4,780 MIAs, 882 killed, including 37 prisoners of war, and 572 released POWs.

Americans fought in almost every part of the world. The chief battlegrounds include Asia, Europe, North Africa, the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, the Mediterranean Sea, and many of these countries have memorials for the American servicemen and women. But our government has not seen fit to do so until now.

All the POWs wanted to do was to get discharged, get back home, and start their lives anew. However, their battle continues long after capture, under the most cruel and inhuman conditions known to man. Tragically, thousands of men did not survive, 14,071. Those of us who did returned with our patriotism greatly strengthened by our ordeal.

Madam Chairwoman, no American knows the value of freedom more than those who lost it. We are proud to join the other veterans' organizations supporting this bill. The freedom we all continue to experience is the greatest memorial to those who served so valiantly in World War II. It is proper and fitting to pay tribute to them by establishing a memorial and museum in our Nation's capital.

Thank you very much.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Bland, with attachment, appears at p. 45.]

Miss **Kaptur**. Thank you, gentlemen, for your support and your willingness to help us on this legislation. We want to thank you for the publicity that has been occurring in your newspapers and publications. We've been receiving letters from all over the country about H.R. 3742.

I can't think of a bill that we have moved where we've gotten this much early positive feedback, since it was only introduced last December. I would say the response is just overwhelming.

I wanted to ask any of you that wish to comment, as you personally think about the focus of such a museum and memorial, what are some of the thoughts running through your minds? As I asked General Turnage, what types of impressions do you think such a memorial and museum might leave? What message do you think would be important to be incorporated so we can make this as part of the official record?

Not all at once.

Mr. **Thorson**. My own personal observations and thoughts on this—and the VFW position on this is very clear. We think this is really an excellent opportunity to educate our children, and remind them of American participation in the war, not only as a military force but as a nation. This entire Nation pulled together during World War II to preserve freedom. I think that is so important. I believe that this monument and museum could project that thought and memory.

Miss **Kaptur**. Thank you.

Mr. DeGeorge?

Mr. **DeGeorge**. Madam Chairwoman, I agree with the comments of Mr. Thorson. I would only simply add that the museum should take into account modern technology and use computer-type programs and presentations. For example, individual monitors could show different movies that were made—for instance, "The Best Years of Our Lives" is a good example. The movie "The Men", that exemplifies spinal cord injured, those kinds of things should be presented in the museum as well. I'm sure the list goes on and on. But we think this is a great opportunity to educate as well as remind us.

Miss **Kaptur**. Mr. DeGeorge, you talked about a living museum, and your willingness to help make it accessible so that people could really use it. We have many smaller memorials and museums around the country to various units and in communities. We would hope that somehow we could connect to those, that the main one could be in Washington but that there might be traveling exhibits or ways that we would enhance rather than diminish some of those memorials and museums that exist around the country. They're small, and there's a lot of memorabilia, but that should be able to be shared and brought in here to the Nation's capital. So I think it would be exciting to be a member of this Commission.

Mr. Schultz?

Mr. **Schultz**. Madam Chairwoman, I would just like to echo their thoughts on the museum and memorial. I would think that the education of our Nation is a major part of this memorial and museum, and to recognize the sacrifices made, both by the men and women who fought in the war and those who stayed home and supported the war effort in one way or another.

I think the most important thing that we can do with a memorial and museum is to educate our children and educate even some of our own generation about the enormous sacrifices that were made during that war, and how World War II changed the world in which we live.

Miss **Kaptur**. You know, Mr. Anthony Stout, who was with us yesterday, who is the U.S. representative to this museum in Normandy and has been involved in raising private funds for it, mentioned that President Reagan was out in California at a high school class and asked the students what side Germany was on in the Second World War. The students didn't know. I'm not even sure they knew there was a Second World War. So when you talk about a focus on youth and on education, I think that is a very strong desire on the part of this committee, to make sure that that emphasis is there as this develops.

Mr. **Bland**. I would suggest that education be the foundation of it. It's just like over here where they suggested these small places where they have these videotapes, because that's where our children are educated, from the video. Because if you go look in the history books, you might find about three lines about, say, Bataan and Corregidor, a line about the Battle of the Bulge and so forth. So we have got to be on the education field, and an education field in a memorial and museum would be one of the highlights that we should stress.

Thank you.

Miss **Kaptur**. Thank you very much. I think it would be a wonderful contribution to the country, I really do. We could leave an important lesson for the future.

Does anyone have any further statement you would like to make at this point? We just want to thank you very, very much for being with us today and for your support.

Mr. **Bland**. Thank you for having us.

Miss **Kaptur**. I would like to call to the table, while we're waiting here, Col. William Ryan from the Americn Battle Monuments Commission, who is the Director of Operations and Finance, accompanied by Col. Frederick C. Badger, Director of Engineering and Maintenance; and also we would like to call Mr. Robert E. Gresham, Assistant Executive Director of Operations, the National Capital Planning Commission.

Colonel Ryan, it's good to see you again.

STATEMENTS OF COL. WILLIAM E. RYAN, U.S. ARMY, DIRECTOR, OPERATIONS AND FINANCE, AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION; ACCOMPANIED BY COL. FREDERICK C. BADGER, U.S. ARMY, DIRECTOR, ENGINEERING AND MAINTENANCE

Colonel **Ryan**. Being a World War II vet myself, I consider it a great privilege today to be able to testify.

Miss **Kaptur**. I did not know that. We'll make that a part of the record, Colonel.

Colonel **Ryan**. Thank you.

We wish to thank you for the opportunity to present the Commission's views on H.R. 3742, a bill to erect a World War II memorial and museum on Federal land in the District of Columbia or its environ.

Following World War II, the American Battle Monuments Commission erected 14 cemetery memorials around the world to provide a final resting place for many of our brave Americans who died liberating those lands, and to honor individually by name the missing in action or lost or buried at sea in the particular region. It also erected three supporting memorials on U.S. soil. These shrines, among the most beautiful of their nature in the world, collectively honor all Americans who fought in that war. But no where is there a single Federal memorial that pays tribute to all veterans of World War II. In our opinion, there is no better place for such a memorial than in our Nation's capital.

World War II was singular in many respects besides it being the greatest in history in size, destruction, casualties and number of participants. Prior to World War II, World War I was considered the greatest war in history. However, its fighting was limited primarily to the European continent. World War II encompassed savage fighting not only on the European continent but in Asia, Africa and the wide-spread islands of the Pacific as well. During it, death and destruction were wreaked upon the world to a degree never experienced before or since. The nuclear age was ushered in; joint unified Allied commands were established; logistics became a science in itself; and there were dramatic advances in ships, air transport, communications, military weaponry and technology which revolutionized the tactics and techniques of warfare. Only man, the ultimate weapon, with his reasoning power and inherent limitations, remained essentially unchanged.

The following statistics will provide you with some idea of the magnitude of that war. With general mobilization of U.S. forces and conscription, over 16,113,000 Americans served in the Armed Forces during World War II. Of that number, 671,000 were wounded in action, 292,000 were killed in action, including 79,000 missing in action or lost or buried at sea and presumed dead, and an additional 114,000 died of nonbattle causes, for a total of 406,000 American military deaths in the battle areas. These casualties occurred during the period 7 December 1941 through 31 December 1946, when hostilities were terminated by Presidential proclamation. However, few casualties occurred after the Japanese acceptance of Allied peace terms on August 14, 1945. Collectively, the Allies experienced an estimated 10,417,000 battle casualties.

The Commission supports the erection of a World War II memorial in the Washington, D.C. area, consistent with the provisions of the Commemorative Works Act. However, it does suggest the following amendments to H.R. 3742.

Section 1102. The Commission does not require a special board to assist it in the execution of its assigned duties. Should such a board, nevertheless, be established, 25 members seems a rather large number. Fifteen members should be adequate. The responsibility of the board should be limited to encouraging contributions of private funds. Most importantly, in order for any board to be effective, it must have an office, access to funding, and be authorized an executive director and clerical support. The expenditure of private contributions received for the memorial should be authorized for this purpose subject to the approval of this Commission.

Section 1102(e)(2). This section should be deleted. Selection of the site and the design should continue to be the responsibility of this Commission, which was established for such purposes. Even with this deletion, the selections of site and design by this Commission would be subject to the approval of the National Capital Planning Commission, the Commission of Fine Arts, and the Secretary of the Interior or the Administrator of General Services, if the memorial is to be located on GSA land.

Section 1103. This section should be amended to authorize expenditure of the Commission's funds appropriated for salaries and expenses to publicize the memorial and encourage donations. Such authorization would do much to facilitate receipt of sufficient private contributions to make the project self-sustaining.

Section 1104(b). Delete this subsection. It is redundant in that the Office of the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is included in section 1104(a) above.

This concludes my prepared statement. If you have any questions, we'll be delighted to respond to them.

[The prepared statement of the American Battle Monuments Commission appears at p. 54.]

Miss KAPTUR. Thank you, Colonel Ryan.

Does Colonel Badger have a statement as well?

Colonel BADGER. No, I don't, Madam Chairwoman.

Miss KAPTUR. All right. We will hold questions just for a second and move on to Mr. Gresham. We're glad to have you with us this morning.

STATEMENT OF ROBERT E. GRESHAM, ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS, NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Mr. GRESHAM. Thank you, Madam Chairwoman.

Just a brief background note. Our Commission, where applicable, operates with respect to memorials under the recently-enacted Commemorative Works Act of 1986, which gives that Commission, as well as the Commission of Fine Arts and, in addition to the two Commissions, the Department of Interior or the General Services Administration, whichever has jurisdiction over the land involved, approval of the site and design of all commemorative works placed on Federal lands in the National Capital Region.

With that background, the Commission supports the concept of a memorial, to be approved accordance with the Commemorative Works Act, which would honor members of the Armed Forces who served in World War II, and to commemorate the United States' participation in that conflict. We strongly concur with the authors and sponsors of the legislation that such a memorial is long overdue in the Nation's capital.

I have been asked to report, however, that the administration recommends that this bill be amended to prohibit the use of Federal funds in the construction of this new memorial. This revision would make H.R. 3742 consistent with the Commemorative Works Act and would be a fairer treatment of the veterans of the Vietnam and Korean wars whose private contributions support their respective memorials.

In spite of the Commission's strong support for the memorial, I must also express its opposition to the World War II museum concept. To our knowledge, there are no existing museums dedicated to a single war in the National Capital Region. We, of course, are concerned that establishing such a memorial will set a precedent which could lead to a number of similar requests for single war memorials which would mean that they would have to compete for the severely limited suitable sites for such facilities in the Nation's capital. In our view, decisions regarding further museums in the Nation's capital should be left to the Smithsonian Institution.

Again, on that note, the administration has asked us to add that two of the Smithsonian museums—the National Air and Space Museum and the National Museum of American History—already contain a considerable amount of World War II artifacts and memorabilia.

Finally, Madam Chairwoman, while hoping that the Commission's concern about proliferation and the limitations on appropriate museum sites in the Nation's capital will be considered, we will certainly work energetically to carry out the will of the Congress as it ultimately evolves from your subcommittee and congressional deliberations.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Gresham appears at p. 56.]

Miss **Kaptur**. We thank you, Mr. Gresham. You raise some important points that we will certainly consider.

What do you envision the Planning Commission's role to be in this process?

Mr. **Gresham**. Well, as we understand it, Madam Chairwoman, it would involve essentially the review and approval of the location and the design of the memorial and, if the museum is included, the memorial and museum project, pursuant to the Commemorative

Works Act, which we understand is incorporated in the bill with respect to the approval of the design and location.

Miss Kaptur. So assuming that a Commission would be set up, then you could be advisory to the Commission in terms of suggesting sites and working with them to identify properties and so forth.

Mr. Gresham. Yes. And to the extent that their work involves coordination with the American Battle Monuments Commission, of course, we would be coordinating with them also.

Miss Kaptur. I wanted to ask Colonel Ryan a question: The word "museum" is absent from your testimony, except for the first line. The American Battle Monuments Commission has never been involved in the construction of a museum, have you, sir?

Colonel Ryan. Not, per se. But we do have what we call museums at each one of our cemetery memorials around the world. They contain battle maps, narratives concerning the battles, and that sort of thing.

Miss Kaptur. The focus is a military one, then, that is restricted to the conflict that occurred at that site?

Colonel Ryan. That is correct.

Miss Kaptur. One of our struggles in crafting this bill was to think about how we would put a group of people together that come from many different experiences, disciplines and interests that could create a museum that would, in fact, be a teaching museum. We're not sure we have included all the correct people. That's why the number is 25, and that's why you're included and why the Planning Commission will also be involved in site selection. But we would welcome any suggestions that you might have. We included the Smithsonian because of their great ability.

You know, you really need to have those skills in order to create something that people want to visit and that teaches at the same time. When I was out at Disneyland last summer and visited the Lincoln exhibit, it was absolutely incredible. But it takes people with great artistic talent. I'm not sure your staff is equipped to do as many things as would be required in this, and that is why we have given you an advisory board that will certainly raise money, but will probably do a lot of other things as well. So we're going to try to work this thing through and not be a burden on you.

Colonel, will you be going to Normandy in June?

Colonel Ryan. No, I will not.

Miss Kaptur. Maybe we could see you get an invitation. I don't know if you would want to go or not, but that might be a good experience for you. I mean, you have responsibility for the cemetery there, do you not?

Colonel Ryan. Yes, we do.

Miss Kaptur. Colonel, as you have listened to this testimony, or Colonel Badger, have you given any thought as to where such a facility might be located here in the Washington area?

Colonel Ryan. We haven't, because we're going to wait until the legislation is passed to see just what the parameters for the museum, if there is one, and the memorial will be.

Miss Kaptur. All right.

From reading the bill as it's proposed now, assuming it were passed, how would such a project be organized? How would you see it developing based on your previous experience with the Korean memorial and other ones that you've had?

Colonel **Ryan**. Let me ask Colonel Badger if he has any ideas on that.

Colonel **Badger**. I'm not sure of your question. You mean organization as far as developing a site, picking a site, or--

Miss **Kaptur**. Let's say that the bill were to be signed into law by the end of this year, that a Commission would be selected by next year, June of next year. How would you see the ABMC then operating? You would basically look at yourselves for site selection?

Colonel **Badger**. Whether a board is given the responsibility for nominating the site or this Commission is, we would first need to establish a concept for the entire project—in other words, just what will it encompass in the way of a museum, and just what are the objectives for the memorial. Then, from there, we would consult with the National Park Service, the National Capital Planning Commission, and the Fine Arts Commission to determine what sites are available which might be considered appropriate. Next, we would hire a consultant firm to analyze the various available sites and make its recommendations.

This is the same procedure we are utilizing for the Korean War Memorial. We have hired a consultant firm. The firm is now considering four different sites and will make recommendations concerning them to the Advisory board early next month. After the recommendations are made, we will seek the formal approvals of the preferred site from the Commissions previously mentioned. We cannot begin the design phase until the site is approved.

Miss **Kaptur**. So the first step would be a site, and assuming it were a museum, where you would have traffic and people, lots of visitors, you would have to give some thought to that. And then for the actual message and the way in which the museum would present its subject, the internal workings of that, you would probably need help from the Smithsonian and other places and private sector representatives for that, would you not?

Colonel **Badger**. That's correct, yes.

Miss **Kaptur**. Thank you very much.

I want to thank you also, Mr. Gresham, for appearing on such such notice. We thank you very much for being here.

Mr. **Gresham**. Thank you, ma'am.

Miss **Kaptur**. Thank you, gentlemen. We look forward to working with you.

Finally is Mr. Kenneth Gaskin, Chairman of the National Victory Memorial Fund, who is here this morning. We thank you, Mr. Gaskin, for waiting. We found out about you in a recent article in Army Times as we did research on this bill.

Mr. **Gaskin**. I'm that old person you saw who came to Washington.

[Laughter.]

Miss **Kaptur**. We welcome you here this morning, sir, and we look forward to your testimony.

STATEMENT OF KENNETH A. GASKIN, CHAIRMAN, WORLD WAR II NATIONAL VICTORY MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Mr. **Gaskin**. Madam Chairwoman and members of the committee, I am Kenneth A. Gaskin, president of Tiara Oil Company and Chairman of the World War II National Victory Memorial Committee, a position I have held since October 1, 1985. My home is in Gladwyne, PA, the birthplace of General H.H. "Hap" Arnold, who commanded the Army Air Forces during World War II.

What started as a memorial to General Arnold on his centennial on June 25, 1986 slowly evolved into the National Victory Memorial and so here we are. For your information, Gladwyne is on the Philadelphia Main Line and is midway between Independence Hall and Valley Forge.

Madam Chairwoman, I am pleased to present my views on House Resolution 3742 relating to the World War II National Victory Memorial which you gallantly have initiated. These views reflect my former service beginning in April, 1934, in units of the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, the Marine Corps and the Coast Guard, and culminating in June, 1958, when I retired from the U.S. Air Force.

It is against that background of military experience and it is on behalf of the veterans of World War II that I commend the sponsors of the bill, and especially you and Miss Oakar for leading the charge in this commendable undertaking. In doing this, you caused men to think about and be grateful to those brave but silent Americans who mothered the World War II fighting forces, for it was those women who suffered the greatest pain and carried the heaviest burden during those decisive years of battle. Truly, as Milton wrote, "They also serve who only stand and wait."

The World War II National Victory Memorial design concept embraces such a thought and, hence, has five separate free-standing structures, or wings, with a victory tower in the center. Three wings represent the military forces of land, sea and air, and the fourth wing represents the home front production and support forces which provided the arms needed to achieve victory, and the last, but not least, fifth wing, represents the commanders-in-chief who pulled this Nation together and led the combined forces to victory.

This concept departs, as it were, from the practice of building a monument solely as a tribute to the fighting forces. But these veterans have had their share of honors and at this time of life I believe their hearts are big enough and their reach long enough to embrace all who supported "the man behind the man behind the gun" as the World War II song went. For example, Congress recently gave veterans rights to those who served during World War II in the Merchant Marine—a belated recognition, but one which will be appreciated, not only by those still living, but by the families of those who have passed on.

I turn now to the matter of funding the memorial. We feel that the victory tower should be income producing and its cost amortized over 25 to 50 years, so that by the 100th anniversary it will stand debt-free and proud. The five separate structures, which may serve as museums for equipment and memorabilia, could be financed by appropriation and/or private donations.

It is my understanding that Congress recently granted $1 million for a monument to America's black veterans. A similar grant at this time would provide the World War II National Victory Memorial effort with operating funds not available from Tiara Oil Company, which since October 1, 1985 has underwritten the project.

However, Tiara Oil Company recently was advised of an entitlement from the Department of Energy Special Refund, Case HEF-591, involving $65.7 million, which has been set aside for entitlement purposes. I previously pledged that a substantial portion of that refund to Tiara will be donated to the memorial fund, and I am hopeful that a number of other petroleum companies will follow suit.

Your good fellow-Congressman, John Dingell, who has supported my company in its many transactions with the DOE and Department of Interior beginning in 1966, can provide your committee with more information on that matter. Congressman Dingell, who served in the Army during World War II, along with a number of other World War II veterans of Congress, will be invited to a briefing on the World War II National Victory Memorial undertaking in the near future, and certainly your committee is most welcome.

I will conclude by saying that my committee, in concert with the U.S. Postal Service and the Armed Forces, will honor General H.H. "Hap" Arnold on Saturday, November 5, 1988. Inasmuch as he was the only person ever to attain five-star rank of General of the Army and General of the Air Force, he was selected as the first military veteran to be honored in celebrations leading to the 50th anniversary of victory in 1995.

The theme for this first such victory celebration is "Wings Around the World", and a schedule of events will be released shortly. However, in keeping with the concept of the victory memorial, November 5, 1988 activities are to pay tribute not only to General Arnold but also to veterans of the Army Air Forces, Navy Air, Marine Air, and Coast Guard, as well as the civilian air units which were active during World War II.

Miss Kaptur, please rest assured that your committee will have the full support of mine in this memorial undertaking. We must remember that our national victory in 1945 was the result of combined forces working toward a common goal.

Today we speak of challenging America with a new goal, of building a magnificent memorial to the victory which has given us 43 years of peace, and completing it by 1995. As in 1945, once again we must not fail.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Gaskin appears at p. 67.]

Miss KAPTUR. Thank you very much, Mr. Gaskin, for your testimony and for your heartfelt involvement in this very important effort.

I wanted to just ask you, in a recent article in Army Times it was indicated that your committee was going to conduct a national poll concerning a World War II memorial. Could you tell us the status of that poll? Is that going forward?

Mr. GASKIN. We put it on hold when Mrs. Susan Short called and told me about your bill. Apparently neither one of us knew what the other was doing.

Miss Kaptur. Also from your testimony, I did not know that John Dingell was involved in all of this. In fact, I didn't know he was a World War II veteran.

Mr. Gaskin. Oh, he is not involved with my committee. He only supported me in the past, my company in the past. But he is an expert on the area of refunds and energy and things like that.

Miss Kaptur. He's an expert on many things, that's for sure.

We appreciate your being here today. I wanted to ask you about your memorial efforts.

Have you gotten any favorable response from Philadelphia or Los Angeles?

Mr. Gaskin. No, because we haven't advertised those sites that much. I know they are both very much interested, but we have not invited the cities to come in and give us their offers of support and what they would do were the memorial placed there.

I was surprised to hear this morning that the administration said they were not for funding this with government money.

Miss Kaptur. Well, this administration doesn't like to fund a lot of things having to do with veterans—

Mr. Gaskin. I see.

Miss Kaptur [Continuing]. But the Congress sometimes has other ideas. We do think it's important to have private sector support for this, and I think there will be a lot of private sector support. I think it's important to have the Federal Government involved, however, in the actual development of the idea so we get an educational facility that is as comprehensive as we would want, and that we have a representative board. This is very important and I think the administration may change its mind. It's done that before.

Mr. Gaskin. I would like to say, however, by embracing Los Angeles and Philadelphia, you get the whole country, as it were, interested. There should have been perhaps more places still left open in order to develop interest in the project, rather than coming out and selecting "Miss America" before the contest is over.

Miss Kaptur. We really did make a choice that it should be in the Nation's capital, that we would develop links to other facilities that might exist throughout the United States.

Mr. Gaskin. I understood, however, that at one time there were no more memorials going to be put up in Washington, and even so, we put that on the list.

Miss Kaptur. Well, Congresswoman Oakar's testimony this morning indicated how tight the situation really is, and so we will have to abide by the wishes of that committee and all of the other planning agencies here in the area. But we intend to proceed forward.

Mr. Gaskin. I see.

Miss Kaptur. Thank you very much, Mr. Gaskin.

We now would like to show the film. Jim Holly has been patiently waiting. We thank you for all your help in getting this technology to work.

As I mentioned earlier, this is the promotional film that was done by the museum staff that has been working on the Battle of Normandy Memorial.

[Videotape presentation.]

Miss KAPTUR. That is just a fine, fine piece of work. You should be very proud of that.

In closing, I would like the record to show that AMVETS, the Non Commissioned Officers Association, The American Legion, the Department of the Army, and the Fine Arts Commission will be submitting their remarks for the official record. The hearing record will be kept open an additional two weeks to enable these organizations to submit to us their written testimony, and we look forward to receiving their comments on this legislation.

[The statements submitted for the record appear on pp. 59, 62, 63, 64 and 65.]

I would also like to thank all of you who have stayed for the entire morning today, for taking the time to be with us and to appear and share your views on H.R. 3742. Your testimony has been very, very valuable to us. You can see how deeply we all feel about this, and I want to assure you that your recommendations will be carefully considered.

For your information, the subcommittee will be marking up H.R. 3742 on June 21, 1988.

Thank you very much. The committee is adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 12:25 p.m., the subcommittee was adjourned.]

APPENDIX

I

100th CONGRESS
1st Session

H. R. 3742

To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize erection of a memorial and museum on Federal land in the District of Columbia or its environs to honor members of the Armed Forces who served in World War II and to commemorate United States participation in that conflict.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

December 10, 1987

Ms. Kaptur (for herself, Ms. Oakar, Mr. Montgomery, Mr. Applegate, Mr. Bilirakis, Mr. Bryant, Mr. Davis of Illinois, Mr. Dornan of California, Mr. Dowdy of Mississippi, Mr. Evans, Mr. Kanjorski, Mr. McEwen, Mr. Ridge, Mr. Hyde, Mr. Ravenel, Mr. Roe, Mr. Boehlert, Mr. Dwyer of New Jersey, Mr. Hawkins, Mr. Traxler, Mr. Waxman, Mrs. Meyers of Kansas, Mr. Oberstar, Mr. Gaydos, Mr. Lantos, Mr. Lipinski, Mr. Daub, Mr. Bustamante, Mr. Emerson, Mr. Owens of Utah, Mr. Solarz, Mr. Wolpe, Mrs. Collins, Mr. Lagomarsino, Mr. Miller of Washington, Mrs. Bentley, Mr. Daniel, Mr. Fazio, Mr. Traficant, Mr. Stump, Mr. Brennan, Mr. Smith of Florida, Mr. Wortley, Mr. Ortiz, Mr. Kolter, Mr. Hall of Texas, Mrs. Schroeder, Mr. Hughes, Mr. McCloskey, Mr. Brown of California, Mr. Lungren, Mr. Lancaster, Mr. Rangel, Mr. Howard, Mr. Fauntroy, Mr. Buechner, Mr. Hayes of Illinois, Mr. Spratt, Mrs. Patterson, Mr. Owens of New York, Mr. Biaggi, Mr. Skelton, Mr. Martinez, Mr. Bevill, Mr. Regula, and Mr. Badham) introduced the following bill; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs and House Administration

---

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize erection of a memorial and museum on Federal land in the District of Columbia or its environs to honor members of the Armed Forces who served in World War II and to commemorate United States participation in that conflict.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL AND MUSEUM.

Title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding after chapter 24 the following new chapter—

"CHAPTER 25—WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL AND MUSEUM

"Sec.

"1101. Authorization for establishment of World War II memorial and museum.
"1102. Establishment of World War II memorial and museum.
"1103. Federal and private funding.
"1104. Federal assistance and authority to purchase land.

"§ 1101. AUTHORIZATION FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL AND MUSEUM.

"(a) Authorization for Establishment of World War II Memorial and Museum.—The American Battle Monuments Commission (hereinafter referred to as the 'Commission') shall establish a memorial and museum on Federal land in the District of Columbia or its environs to honor members of the Armed Forces who served in World War II and to commemorate United States participation in that conflict.

"(b) Responsibilities of the Commission.—The Commission shall plan, design, construct, and oversee the operation of the memorial and museum.

"§ 1102. ESTABLISHMENT OF WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL AND MUSEUM ADVISORY BOARD.

"(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF BOARD.—There is established a World War II Memorial and Museum Advisory Board (hereinafter referred to as the 'Board').

"(b) MEMBERSHIP OF BOARD.—(1) The Board shall consist of 25 members appointed by the President.

"(2) The members of the Board shall include representatives of veterans' organizations, World War II veterans, World War II historians, and representatives of American historical associations and other organizations knowledgeable about World War II.

"(3) All appointments under this subsection shall be made within 120 calendar days of the date of the enactment of this Chapter.

"(c) TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP ON BOARD.—(1) Members of the Board appointed by the President shall serve a term of 3 years.

"(2) Any member appointed to fill a vacancy arising on the Board shall serve until the expiration of the term of the member who left the Board and created the vacancy.

"(d) OFFICERS OF THE BOARD.—The Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Board shall be appointed by the President from among the members of the Board.

"(e) RESPONSIBILITIES OF BOARD.—The Board shall—

"(1) promote establishment of the memorial and museum authorized under section 1101(a) and encourage donation of private funds for the construction and maintenance of the memorial and museum, and

"(2) recommend the site and select the design for the memorial and museum, subject to the approval of the Commission and in accordance with section 7 of the Act of November 14, 1986 (40 U.S.C. 1007).

"§ 1103. FEDERAL AND PRIVATE FUNDING.

"(a) PRIVATE FUNDING.—For the purpose of establishing the memorial and museum authorized under section 1101(a), the Commission may solicit and accept private contributions. The Commission shall maintain documentation of any such contributions.

"(b) AUTHORIZATION FOR FEDERAL FUNDING.—There are authorized to be appropriated such funds as are necessary, in addition to private funds solicited under subsection (a)—

"(1) for site preparation, design, planning, and associated administrative costs for the establishment of the memorial and museum authorized under section 1101(a), and

"(2) for construction and maintenance of the memorial and museum.

"§ 1104. FEDERAL ASSISTANCE AND AUTHORITY TO PURCHASE LAND.

"(a) ASSISTANCE IN PERFORMANCE OF FUNCTIONS.—The Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, the Library of Congress, and all executive branch departments, agencies, and establishments of the United States may assist the Commission in the performance of its functions.

"(b) ASSISTANCE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS.—The Administrator of Veterans' Affairs may provide administrative services and support to the Commission on a reimbursable basis.

"(c) REAL PROPERTY.—For the purpose of establishing the memorial and museum authorized under section 1101(a)—

"(1) any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States may transfer to the administrative jurisdiction of the Commission any real property in the District of Columbia or its environs which is under the administrative jurisdiction of such department, agency, or instrumentality, and

"(2) the Commission is authorized to purchase, with the consent of the owner thereof, any real property within the District of Columbia or its environs.".

SEC. 2. CONFORMING AMENDMENT.

The table of contents of title 38, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to chapter 24 the following new item:

"25. World War II memorial and museum.".

○

STATEMENT OF:

THE HONORABLE MARY ROSE OAKAR (D-OH)

H.R. 3742

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND MEMORIAL AFFAIRS
ROOM 334 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
APRIL 21; 1988

Good morning. It is a pleasure to testify before the distinguished Subcommittee on Housing and Memorial Affairs. I would like to commend my friend and colleague, Chairwoman Marcy Kaptur (D-OH), for holding this hearing today as well as for introducing H.R. 3742. This bill, of which I am an original co-sponsor, would authorize the erection of a memorial and museum on federal land in the District of Columbia to honor members of the Armed forces who served in World War II and to commemorate U.S. participation in that noble cause.

Being Chair of the Subcommittee on Libraries and Memorials, I have the fortunate opportunity to recommend to my Committee, authorization of future commemorative works for establishment in the District of Columbia. In the 99th Congress alone, the Subcommittee authorized the following memorials to be erected in our nation's capital: a memorial to veterans of the Korean conflict; a memorial to all women who have served in the armed forces; a memorial to Black Revolutionary War Patriots; and finally, a memorial to the Armored Force Division of the United States Army. Currently, the siting, design concept and fundraising phases for each of these projects is taking place.

During the last century, 111 memorials, monuments and plaques have been established on federal land in the District of Columbia. These commemorative works honor U.S. Presidents, military units, those who served in the Vietnam conflict, heroes of the Revolutionary and Civil Wars, U.S. citizens, individuals from foreign countries and various significant events.

It is distressing; however to note that there is not one single memorial that expresses the contributions to freedom made by those 16 million veterans of World War II.

In the nation's capital, the Iwo Jima Memorial signifies the contributions made by the Marine Corps in its victory during World War II. In Battery Park in New York City, a monument to those who lost their lives in the war in the Atlantic proudly stands. United States national cemeteries dot the globe commemorating the hundreds battles and actions undertaken by "our boys" in order to achieve an Allied victory.

During World War II; more Americans died or were wounded than in any other war or conflict. Isn't it about time that we honor those Americans whose sacrifices and bravery contributed to the preservation of democracy? To memorialize the accomplishments of the millions of servicemen and women who defended America's very existence in that war would definitely signify this nation's gratitude.

During the Second World War; the United States became

INVOLVED IN THE DEFENSE OF FREEDOM AROUND THE WORLD. THE WAR HAD A PROFOUND IMPACT ON THE LIVES OF ALL AMERICANS. THE EVENTS AND PEOPLE WHO PARTICIPATED IN THAT CONFLICT HAVE SHAPED OUR ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS. A MEMORIAL AND MUSEUM DEDICATED TO THIS ERA IN OUR LIVES WOULD SYMBOLIZE SO MANY THINGS: THE VALIANT EFFORTS OF OUR VETERANS BOTH LIVING AND DECEASED; THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF OUR ALLIED COUNTERPARTS; THE CITIES, VILLAGES AND FARMS AROUND THE WORLD THAT SERVED AS MAJOR BATTLE GROUNDS; AND THE COUNTLESS STRIDES MADE ON BEHALF OF OUR ARMED FORCES.

FUTURE GENERATIONS WILL GREATLY BENEFIT FROM THE LESSONS OF WORLD WAR II THAT A MEMORIAL AND MUSEUM OF THIS STATURE WILL TEACH.

IT IS QUITE EVIDENT THAT THIS MEMORIAL IS EXTREMELY WORTHWHILE AND WILL SERVE A MULTITUDE OF PURPOSES. ITS TIME IS LONG OVERDUE AND I HOPE WE WILL SOON SEE THE PASSAGE OF ITS AUTHORIZATION AND SUBSEQUENT CONSTRUCTION.

I THANK YOU, MADAME CHAIR; AND THE MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE FOR ALLOWING ME TO TESTIFY BEFORE YOU TODAY.

STATEMENT OF THOMAS K. TURNAGE
ADMINISTRATOR OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
BEFORE THE
HOUSE VETERANS' AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND MEMORIAL AFFAIRS
APRIL 21, 1988

Madame Chairwoman and Members of the Subcommittee:

I very much appreciate being asked to present the views of the Veterans Administration on H.R. 3742, your bill to establish a World War II veterans memorial and museum in the Nation's capital. Let the record show that we at VA heartily endorse the concept of memorializing the contributions and sacrifices made by those who served America in World War II.

By enacting Public Law 99-572, Congress has authorized a memorial to Korean Conflict veterans which will complement he existing Vietnam Veterans' Memorial. It is only fitting that there be a suitable commemoration as well of those who served during our greatest armed conflict in terms of both members under arms and casualties sustained..

The second world war was the most pivotal event of this century. In successfully resisting those who would have imposed global tyranny, the United States was vaulted into a position of world leadership and her ideals of liberty and self-determination were fostered internationally as never before.

2.

To physically memorialize the accomplishments of the millions of servicemen and women who defended America's very existence in that war would tangibly signify this Nation's enduring gratitude. The veterans of that war and their survivors richly deserve the appreciation of their countrymen in perpetuity, an appreciation which would surely be furthered by a fitting memorial.

It is extremely important too that the enormity of the cost--in terms of human life and suffering--of what we all hope is the last great global conflict is not lost on future generations.

Madame Chairwoman, while we at the VA endorse the general thrust of this proposal, we must defer to other Executive Branch agencies more directly affected as to the specifics of how the undertaking should be accomplished. We do offer two recommendations of a technical nature concerning the bill as currently drafted. First, we recommend that title 36 of the U.S. Code, rather than title 38, be amended as that is where the remainder of the American Battle Monuments Commission's duties are specified. Second, rather than authorizing the VA to provide the ABMC with administrative support on a reimbursable basis, it would be preferable if the ABMC were authorized sufficient resources to fulfull its responsibilities in-house.

Thank you again for your kind invitation.

STATEMENT OF
RICHARD F. SCHULTZ
ASSOCIATE NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR
DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
BEFORE THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND MEMORIAL AFFAIRS
OF THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS
April 21, 1988

MADAM CHAIRWOMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE:

On behalf of the more that 1.1 million members of the Disabled American Veterans and its Ladies' Auxiliary, I wish to thank you for this opportunity to present the views of the DAV relative to H.R. 3742, a measure proposing to construct a World War II Memorial and Museum in the Washington, D.C. area.

At the outset, Madam Chairwoman, the DAV wishes to commend you for your efforts to establish a memorial and museum commemorating our nation's involvement in World War II. Achieving this worthy goal will assure that all Americans, and our nation's many visitors, will have a single location to visit and reflect upon the enormous cost of this global war, both in terms of human suffering and lives lost, as well as how World War II changed the world in which we live.

Madam Chairwoman, their is no doubt that World War II is one of the most significant events in modern history affecting the entire world. The technological advances made during this period are a major contributing factor to the way we live today.

World War II also witnessed the mobilization of our entire nation toward one common goal -- the defeat of the axis powers. During this period, Americans joined the military in record numbers and the remaining civilian population rallied to produce the massive amounts of war materials necessary for a military victory.

In addition, World War II had a profound affect on our economy. To support our war effort the U. S. Government was required to produce a record number of airplanes, tanks and ships. The financing of this massive military buildup also necessitated the U. S. Government to obtain several war loans and issue savings bonds in record numbers.

Madam Chairwoman, in order to keep our fighting forces supplied abroad, the rationing of many consumer goods at home was required. All Americans were required to sacrifice in some way so that world peace could be achieved.

Most significant, however, were the sacrifices made in terms of human suffering and lives lost. It has been estimated that during the World War II years, civilian and military casualties world-wide totaled 55 million.

Of the more than 16 million Americans who served in our military during World War II, more than 670,000 were wounded, nearly 140,000 were taken prisoner or listed as missing in action and over 405,000 American military men and women lost their lives, paying the ultimate sacrifice for the freedoms we all share today.

Clearly, Madam Chairwoman, the sacrifices of our military men and women during World War II are well documented. There exist a plethora of literature on the many battles of World War II and about the individuals who fought in these battles.

Many motion pictures have also been produced immortalizing our war heroes and their famous battles.

Madam Chairwoman, we are aware that following World War II the American Battle Monuments Commission erected 14 cemetery memorials around the world in order that America's war dead would have a fitting and proper final resting place. There also exists numerous community monuments and memorials honoring individuals who fought and died in far away lands.

We are also aware that some military units have established museums at their headquarter locations depicting the history of their particular units. However, as you know, Madam Chairwoman, nowhere does there exist a single location where individuals can visit and learn of the tremendous sacrifices made during World War II.

Madam Chairwoman, in recognition of the lack of a National memorial and museum which acknowledges America's sacrifices and achievements during World War II, you introduced H. R. 3742. This measure, with 65 of your colleagues as original cosponsors, if enacted, would authorize the construction of a memorial and museum on federal lands in Washington, D. C. or its environs.

H. R. 3742 also provides that the American Battle Monuments Commission shall plan, design, construct, and oversee the erection of this Memorial and Museum using a combination of federal and private funds. Further, this measure would establish a 25 member board, appointed by the President, consisting of representatives of the veterans service organizations, World War II veterans and historians, to promote establishment of this memorial and museum and encourage the donation of private funds for its construction and maintenance.

Madam Chairwoman, while the DAV does not have a National Convention mandate relative to H.R. 3742, I can say that we certainly support and applaud your efforts to provide recognition, in our nation's Capitol, for the men and women who served in our nation's military during World War II. Erection of this memorial and museum, we believe, is a fitting and proper way to honor those who served America during this most historic period in time.

However, as mentioned previously, numerous military units currently maintain historic museums that, in fact, provide a history in recognition of their units' involvement in World War II. With this in mind, Madam Chairwoman, what effect would H.R. 3742 have on the continued existence of these important military museums? We would hope that the museum established as a result of this legislation would not endanger the future of these worthwhile museums.

This concludes our statement, Madam Chairwoman. Again, we wish to thank you for soliciting our views on this important legislation and for your efforts to assure that our nation continues to remember the many sacrifices made by veterans, particularly America's service-connected disabled veterans, in defense of our great land.

STATEMENT OF
FRANK R. DEGEORGE, ASSOCIATE LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR
PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA
BEFORE THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND MEMORIAL AFFAIRS
OF THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS
REGARDING
H.R. 3742, LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH A WORLD WAR II VETERANS' MEMORIAL AND MUSEUM IN WASHINGTON, D.C.
APRIL 21, 1988

Chairwoman Kaptur and Members of the Subcommittee on Housing and Memorial Affairs of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I am Frank R. DeGeorge, Associate Legislative Director of Paralyzed Veterans of America, a Congressionally chartered veterans' service organization. On behalf of PVA, I want to thank you for your invitation to appear here today. PVA appreciates the Subcommittee's scheduling of this hearing, and for the opportunity to express our views and concerns regarding this important legislation to establish a World War II Veterans' Memorial and Museum in Washington, D.C.

Madam Chairwoman, we also want to take this opportunity to thank you for introducing H.R. 3742, and also to thank the over 100 Members of Congress, as cosponsors of the bill, for their significant bipartisan support. PVA supports passage of H.R. 3742. We strongly agree with you that such a fitting tribute to the men and women who served their country during World War II is long overdue.

Individually, as in any war, the men and women who served were proud and honored to do so without any intent whatsoever to be recognized or memorialized. However, collectively, it is the Nation that has a responsibility to appropriately recognize the 16,535,000 Americans (today there are 10,076,000 living) who served in this Nation's Armed Forces during the period of World War from September 16, 1940, through July 25, 1947, and moreover, the 406,000 war dead who made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of freedom around the world.

Congresswoman Kaptur, you are correct to say, "Yet, nowhere is there one single monument to honor all of our veterans, both deceased and living, who carried this nation to victory. Only a national memorial and museum, located in our nation's capital, can pay tribute to those valiant men and women, and give a sense of the scope of the war, the actions in that conflict, and the goals and objectives that come into play, and the enduring values to which our participation in that struggle was dedicated."

The National Park Service maintains three monuments that significantly depict episodes of the war and the sacrifices of those who served. Those government funded projects are the U.S.S. Arizona, Honolulu, Hawaii; Iwo Jima Memorial, Arlington, VA; and the American Memorial Park in Saipan.

Numerous statues and war memorials are maintained by the United States Department of the Interior, National Parks Service, National Capital Region (Washington, D.C.; Virginia; and Maryland), but none are totally reflective of the entire World War II effort. We have provided to your staff a list of these located in the National Capital Region.

In addition, informational materials provided by the American Battle Monument Commission reflect that they administer, operate and maintain, on foreign soil, twenty-four permanent American military burial grounds, fourteen separate monuments and two tablets and, in the U.S. four memorials.

While monuments and memorial recognizing aspects of World War II exist in Washington, D.C., and other areas throughout the nation, no single monument or memorial is dedicated to the entire World War II effort.

The Veterans Administration administers 111 national VA cemeteries nationwide. Many of these national cemeteries also contain monuments honoring those who served in specific actions. The Department of Defense and the individual Armed Services have also constructed various monuments that honor those who have served in each branch of service.

Additionally, many of the individual states have provided local recognition in various forms to honor citizens who served during World War II. Indiana is one outstanding example of where a state has constructed a monument that pays tribute to the veterans of World War I and World War II. In 1987, the memorial was rededicated to commemorate the services rendered by Indiana veterans in all wars and conflicts in the twentieth century.

And again, you are correct to say "there are cemeteries and memorials for the American dead of World War II, from the Far East to Europe, but there is no single national memorial for the greatest armed conflict in which the nation has been involved in the twentieth century."

PVA strongly endorses the intent of this legislation, but we must also comment on several provisions contained in it. First, H.R. 3742, Section 1102(a), establishes a World War II Memorial and Museum Advisory Board. It is gratifying to PVA that members of the Board shall include representatives of veterans' organizations. It is important to mention that the Advisory Board, once it is established, be aware of the law that ensures physical accessibility and accommodations to public buildings, which include national monuments visited and used by the public.

In this regard, PVA offers our services when this legislation is enacted into law. PVA is a recognized leader in helping to eliminate architectural barriers that confront elderly and disabled individuals. PVA has consulted on many projects to ensure accessibility and the elimination of architectural barriers that confront disabled and elderly persons. In fact, PVA participated in the barrier-free renovation of the General Lee-Custis Mansion, the Pearl Harbor Memorial, and most recently, participated in ensuring accessibility in the renovation of the Statue of Liberty and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, and is represented on the Korean War Veterans Memorial Presidential Advisory Board. PVA has a full time staff, including an architect, in the Barrier Free Design program. Accessibility of the WWII Memorial and Museum dedicated to veterans, many of whom are disabled, is essential.

Second, Section 1102(b) Membership of Board. PVA for many reasons suggests that the Board consist of a lesser number of appointees, as the number of 25 members could be unwieldy, even for meeting purposes. PVA believes the Board should not consist of more than 15 members. Finally, PVA further recommends for future consideration by the Advisory board that the memorial design should be a living memorial that can be fully utilized by and where the public can congregate.

Section 1103 Federal and Private Funding. Considering the funding necessary to construct an appropriate memorial and museum, PVA believes that if every veteran contributed only one dollar, sufficient funds can be raised. However, we are deeply concerned that there are several other ongoing fund raising efforts to build national and international veterans' memorials. This high level of competitive fund raising could diminish efforts to raise the funds necessary to construct any of these important projects. We would urge the government to authorize and appropriate, in accordance with the magnitude of the project, the funds necessary to begin the project.

The legislation, as currently written, does not state precisely the amount of government funding to be provided; we think it should be no less than the amount of funding provided the "Korean War Veterans' Memorial."

PVA also recommends that the purpose of H.R. 3742 be amended similar to H.R. 2205, H.R. 2258 and S. 1223 (now Public Law 99-572) to authorize the American Battle Monuments Commission to establish a memorial on federal land in the District of Columbia or its environs to honor members of the Armed Forces of the United States who served in World War II and to commemorate United States participation in that conflict, particularly those who were killed in action, wounded, listed as missing in action, or held as prisoners of war.

The museum aspects of the memorial should also recognize the national effort of its citizens, for example, to include the Merchant Marines, the Women Corps (all branches of the military), the Red Cross, the ship builders and, yes, "Rosy, the Riveter."

Madam Chairwoman, we applaud and commend you, the Subcommittee, and your staff for your continuing support of veterans and, especially, for your vision in submitting this long awaited legislation that will recognize the efforts of proud Americans who served and to provide a place that reminds past, present and future generations of Americans that war, all wars require great sacrifice and that as a Nation we continue to strive for strength with a purpose to maintain lasting peace. Please know that PVA is supportive and committed to assist in the fruition of this worthwhile project. I will be happy to answer any questions that I can. Again, thank you.

STATEMENT OF

GORDON R. THORSON, SPECIAL ASSISTANT
NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE SERVICE
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND MEMORIAL AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WITH RESPECT TO

H.R. 3742, A BILL TO ERECT A MEMORIAL AND
MUSEUM TO HONOR VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II

WASHINGTON, D. C. APRIL 21, 1988

MADAM CHAIRWOMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE:

It is a real privilege for the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States to participate during this most important, hearing. I proudly represent the interests of over 2.9 million men and women, who comprise the membership of our organization and its Ladies Auxiliary.

In your letter of invitation to this hearing, you aptly stated: "A fitting tribute to those Americans who served their country during World War II (WW II) is long overdue. Over 16 million Americans served in this nation's armed forces during that conflict and over 400,000 made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of freedom around the world." The Veterans of Foreign Wars couldn't agree with you more. We wholeheartedly support the intent of your legislation H.R. 3742 and call on all Americans to join in this effort to establish a national tribute to commemorate the United States participation in WW II.

World War II was a military conflict that involved most every country on the face of the earth. After considering the number of lives lost and the utter destruction, WW II is acknowledged as the most devastating war in human history. It began in 1939 as a European conflict, but soon escalated to include most of the nations of the world. The United States offically joined the fight and declared war, as a direct result of the December 7th Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. From that day forward the United States was fully committed to ending the war. The war effort involved the commitment of this nation's entire human and economic resources, combatants and non-combatants worked together, determined to fight to the finish. The war ended in 1945 and resulted in a new world order, dominated by the United States. The world balance of power shifted from Britain, France, Germany and Japan over to the United States and Russia.

The cost of war was beyond the imagination and must never be forgotten:

- Three-fourths of the world's population took part in WW II--1.7 billion people.
- 110 million persons, worldwide, were mobilized for military service.
- Over 55 million people were killed--25 million killed were military and 30 million killed were civilians.

The Chairwoman and this subcommittee is commended for their initiative in advancing H.R. 3742 and holding this hearing. WW II was the most significant event of this century, a fitting memorial-museum would serve to remind this nation of our total participation.

A monument-museum in the Nation's Capitol, Washington, D. C., would document and preserve our participation in WW II. Most importantly this memorial would remind us of the real costs of war, contribute towards a better understanding of war, and demonstrate our national commitment to world peace.

STATEMENT BEFORE THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND MEMORIAL AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS, U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

BY

ALBERT J. BLAND, NATIONAL COMMANDER

AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR

WITH RESPECT TO

H. R. 3742

A BILL TO ESTABLISH A

WORLD WAR II VETERANS' MEMORIAL AND MUSEUM

IN WASHINGTON, D. C.

APRIL 21, 1988

Chairwoman Kaptur and Distinguished Members of the Committee. The opportunity to present the views of the American Ex-Prisoners of War on this legislation are deeply appreciated. Indeed, we are honored to do so.

Americans have always recognized those brave men and women who served their country in times of danger. Sacrifice of life, limb—or even freedom—has been the price millions of patriotic citizens have willingly paid to protect our way of life for both the present generation and those that would follow.

The Second World War was truly a global conflict in every respect. It impacted upon every nation and every continent. None were immune from its consequences.

The cause was clear: the basic right of every human being, regardless of the color of their skin, cultural-ethnic background, or religious beliefs, to live their lives with freedom and dignity—or, indeed, to even live at all!

No cause could be more important since our citizens came here from every country and every continent. They came to escape religious persecution and to enjoy the freedom and values that have made us the greatest nation on the face of the Earth.

Those who fought in World War II did so with great pride and determination. They courageously did so even in those circumstances where the military might of the enemy was overwhelming. More than 130,000 Americans were captured under these conditions in that war, either wounded, out of ammunition, or no longer able to inflict damage on the enemy. However, their battle continued long after capture under the most cruel and inhumane conditions known to man. Tragically, thousands of men did not survive; those of us who did, returned with our patriotism greatly strengthened by the ordeal.

Madam Chairwoman, no Americans know the value of freedom more than those who lost it. We are proud to join the other veterans service organizations in supporting this Bill. The freedom we all continue to experience is the greatest memorial to those who served so valiantly in World War II. It is proper and fitting to pay tribute to them by establishing a Memorial and Museum in our Nation's Capital.

Thank you.

Attachment

AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR
IN
WWI, WWII, KOREA AND VIETNAM

STATISTICAL DATA CONCERNING NUMBERS
CAPTURED, REPATRIATED AND STILL ALIVE
AS OF JANUARY 1, 1988

PREPARED FOR THE
VA ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON FORMER PRISONERS OF WAR
MENTAL HEALTH AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES SERVICE, DM&S, VACO
AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR ASSOCIATION

BY

CHARLES A. STENGER, PH.D.

AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR
IN
WORLD WAR I, WORLD WAR II, KOREA AND VIETNAM

JANUARY 1, 1988

Data for this report was developed in cooperation with the Department of Defense, National Research Council, National Archives and other sources. As such, it reflects consensual agreement as to the accuracy and acceptability of the information presented. Inquiries or comments should be directed to Dr. Charles A. Stenger, American Ex-Prisoners of War Association, 7425 Democracy Boulevard, Bethesda, Maryland 20817, (301) 365-5452.

ALL WARS

	Total	WWI	WWII	Korean	Vietnam
Captured & Interned	142,227	4,120	130,201	7,140	766
Still Classified as POW	1	-----	-----	-----	1
Died While POW	17,026	147	14,072	2,701	114
Refused Repatriation	21	-----	-----	21	---
Returned to U.S. Military Control	125,171	3,973	116,129	4,418	651
Alive on Jan. 1, 1982	93,029	633	87,996	3,770	630
Alive on Jan. 1, 1988	78,264	228	73,973	3,449	614(est)

NOTE: 1. Jan. 1, 1982 data is provided since it most clearly approximates the POW population at the time P.L. 97-37 went into effect (Oct. 1, 1981). As of Jan. 1, 1988 the POW population has decreased through death by 14,756, (16%).

2. While not appropriate for inclusion in POW statistics, 92,753, servicemen were lost in combat and never recovered, as follows: WWI - 3,350; WWII - 78,773; Korea - 8,177; Vietnam - 2,453.

3. Data for WWII does not include U.S. Merchant Marine Casualties which were 4,780 missing; 882 dead (including 37 POWs) and 572 released POWs and one POW unaccounted for. (Summary of Merchant Marine Casualties, WWII, from July 1, 1950, report of U.S. Coast Guard.)

4. World War II data, also, does not include construction workers and Pan American employees (from Guam) on Wake Island who, as a class, were deemed to be veterans for VA purposes in accordance with DOD Directive 1000.20 (PL 95-202). Originally, there were 1,146 of the

former and 69 of the latter. An estimated 600 were evacuated. Approximately 600 in all may have been captured. An unofficial estimate of survivors until January 1, 1988, would be 250.

5. During the Civil War 220,000 were captured by the North, with 26,436 dying during confinement; and 126,950 were captured by the South, with 22,576 dying during confinement. (The Civil War, Garden Press, New York, New York.)

WORLD WAR II

TOTALS ARMY, AIR CORPS, NAVY AND MARINES

Captured and Interned	130,201
Died While POW	14,072
Returned to U.S. Military Control	116,129
Alive on January 1, 1982	87,996
Alive on January 1, 1988	73,973

Army and Air Corps

	Total	ETO/Medit.[a]	Pacific	Other	Philippine Is. (Dec. 7, 1941, thru May 10, 1942)[b/c]
Captured & Interned	124,079	93,941	27,465	2,673	(25,580)
Died While POW	12,653	1,121	11,107	425	(10,650)
Returned to U.S. Military Control	111,426	92,820	16,358	2,248	(14,930)
Alive on Jan. 1, 1982	84,753	71,736	11,280	1,737	(10,295)
Alive on Jan. 1, 1988	71,334	60,676	9,197	1,461	(8,369)

[a] Includes 23,554 captured during Battle of Bulge (Ardennes, Dec. 16, 1944 - January 25, 1945).

[b] Also known as the Bataan-Corregidor combat zone. Statistics in this column are incorporated in the Pacific totals.

[c] U.S. forces captured included approximately 17,000 American nationals and 12,000 Filipino Scouts. During the first year of captivity, a reported 30% of the Americans and 80% of the Filipino Scouts died. Data is unclear as to the proportion of each group surviving to repatriation, but a very rough estimate would be 11,000 Americans and 4,000 Filipino Scouts. This information is based on military records developed during the war and no accurate breakdown was made after repatriation. In addition, some 7,300 American civilian men, women, and children were involuntarily incarcerated by the Japanese in 1941 - 1942.

WORLD WAR II (Continued)

Navy and Marine Corps

	Total	Navy[a]	Marine Corps[b]
Captured & Interned	6,122	3,848	2,274
Died While POW	1,419	901	518
Returned to U.S. Military Control	4,703	2,947	1,756
Alive on Jan. 1, 1982	3,243	2,032	1,211
Alive on Jan. 1, 1988	2,639	1,652	987

[a] Navy casualty data related to naval vessels, not to theater of operation.

[b] Marine Corps personnel captured in Philippine Islands December 1941 - May 1942 totalled 1,388. Data on numbers dying during captivity, repatriated, and still living are not available for this theatre of operations.

KOREAN CONFLICT[a/b]

	Total	Army	Navy	Marine	Air Force
Captured & Interned	7,140	6,656	35	225	224
Died While POW	2,701	2,662	4	31	4
Returned to U.S. Military Control	4,418	3,973	31	194	220
Refused Repatriation	21	21	--	---	---
Alive on Jan. 1, 1982	3,770	3,390	26	166	188
Alive on Jan. 1, 1988	3,449	3,100	23	153	173

[a] These data indicate status through November 4, 1954. As of that date 24 were still missing. By September 15, 1955, fifteen of these men had been released and the other nine were declared dead.

[b] Does not include eighty-one Navy personnel who were involved in the Pueblo incident.

VIETNAM

	Total	Army	Navy	Marine	Air Force
Captured & Interned	766	179	181	48	358
Still Classified as POW	1	0	0	0	1
Died While POW	114	45	36	9	24
Returned to U.S. Military Control Prior to Jan. 27, 1973 (Escaped or Released)	84	57	7	12	8
Returned to U.S. Military Control After January 27, 1973	567	77	138	27	325
Total Returned to U.S. Military Control	651	134	145	39	333
*Alive on Jan. 1, 1982	630*	129	140	35	326
*Alive on Jan. 1 , 1988	614	127	134	34	319

*Estimated by Charles A. Stenger, Ph.D. Based on part on individual reports of deaths of Vietnam veteran POWs. (There is no organization currently monitoring mortality data on VN POWs.)

SOURCES

World War II

1. Army Battle Casualties and Non-Battle Deaths in WWII: Final Report, 7 December 1941 - 31 December 1946, Published 1 June 1953.

2. Combat Connected Naval Casualties: WWII by States - 1946 UNS - MC - CG, 2 Vol. Published by Casualty Section, Navy Department.

3. History of Medical Department of Navy in WWII: Statistics of Diseases and Injuries, US Govt. Printing Office (Nav. Med. p. 1318, Vol. 3).

4. History of U.S. Marine Corps Operations in WWII: Volume V, Appendix A, Published 1968 by Historical Branch, G-3 Division, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps.

Korean Conflict

1. DOD Public Information Release No. 1088 - 54, Nov. 5, 1954.

2. DOD Tentative Final Report of U.S. Battle Casualties in the Korean War. Office of Secretary of Defense, Nov. 4, 1954.

Vietnam Conflict (Southeast Asia)

1. Data developed by National Archives Machine Readable Division from records provided by the Office of the Secretary of Defense and verified by the POW/MIA Office in the Pentagon.

General

1. Estimates for number of WWI, WWII, and Korean Conflict returnees alive on January 1, 1988, are provided by Robert J. Keehn, Medical Follow-up Agency, National Research Council as follows:

   a. For WWI, the proportion assumed to be still alive on January 1, 1988, is based on U.S. Life Tables for White Males, 1969-1971, assuming they were living on January 1, 1919, at the rate predicted by the NAC Study of WWI veterans in 1960.

   b. For WWII, proportion alive on January 1, 1988, is based upon a recent study of mortality of POWs to January 1, 1976, (American Journal of Epidemiology, February 1980), and the application of 1978 U.S. death rates for updating to January 1, 1988.

   c. For Korean Conflict, survival data for January 1, 1988 is based upon the sample of Korean POW in the same mortality study and the application of the same 1978 U.S. death rate tables.

STATEMENT OF COL. WILLIAM E. RYAN, U.S. ARMY, DIRECTOR, OPERATIONS AND FINANCE, AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION

Madame Chair and Members of the Subcommittee:

We wish to thank you for the opportunity to present the Commission's views on H.R. 3742, a bill to erect a World War II Memorial and Museum on Federal land in the District of Columbia or its environ.

Following World War II, the American Battle Monuments Commission erected fourteen cemetery memorials around the world to provide a final resting place for many of our brave Americans who died liberating those lands, and to honor individually by name the Missing in Action or lost or buried at sea in the particular region. It also erected three supporting memorials on U.S. soil. These shrines, among the most beautiful of their nature in the world, collectively honor all Americans who fought in that war. But nowhere is there a single federal memorial that pays tribute to all veterans of World War II. In our opinion, there is no better place for such a memorial than in the Nation's capitol.

World War II was singular in many respects besides it being the greatest in history in size, destruction, casualties and number of participants. Prior to World War II, World War I was considered the greatest war in history, however, its fighting was limited primarily to the European continent. World War II encompassed savage fighting not only on the European continent but in Asia, Africa and the wide-spread islands of the Pacific as well. During it, death and destruction were wreaked upon the world to a degree never experienced before or since; the nuclear age was ushered in; joint unified Allied commands were established; logistics became a science in itself and there were dramatic advances in ships, air transport, communications, military weaponry and technology which revolutionized the tactics and techniques of warfare. Only man, the ultimate weapon with his reasoning power and inherent limitations, remained essentially unchanged.

The following statistics will provide you with some idea of the magnitude of that war. With general mobilization of U.S. forces and conscription, over 16,113,000 Americans served in the Armed Forces during World War II. Of that number 671,000 were wounded in action; 292,000 were Killed in Action, including 79,000 Missing in Action or lost or buried at sea and presumed dead; and an additional 114,000 died of non-battle causes for a total of 406,000 American military deaths in the battle areas. These casualties occurred during the period 7 December 1941 through 31 December 1946, when hostilities were terminated by Presidential Proclamation. However, few casualties occurred after the Japanese acceptance of Allied peace terms on August 14, 1945. Collectively, the Allies experienced an estimated 10,417,000 battle deaths.

The Commission supports the erection of a World War II Memorial in the Washington, DC area, consistent with the provisions of the Commemorative Works Act. However, it does suggest the following amendments to H.R. 3742:

Section 1102.: The Commission does not require a special board to assist it in the execution of its assigned duties. Should such a board nevertheless be established, twenty-five members seems a rather large number; fifteen members should be adequate. The responsibility of the Board should be limited to encouraging contributions of private funds. Most importantly, in order for any board to be effective, it must have an office, access to funding, and be authorized an Executive Director and clerical support. The expenditure of private contributions should be authorized for this purpose, subject to approval of this Commission.

Section 1102.(e) (2): This section should be deleted. Selection of the site and the design should continue to be the responsiblity of this Commission which was established for such purposes. Even with this deletion, the selections of site and design by this Commission would be subject to the approval of the National Capital Planning Commission, the Commission of Fine Arts and the Secretary of the Interior or the Administrator of General Services, if the memorial is to be located on GSA land.

Section 1103.: This section should be amended to authorize expenditure of the Commission's funds appropriated for salaries and expenses to publicize the memorial and encourage donations. Such authorization would do much to facilitate receipt of sufficient private contributions to make the project self sustaining.

Section 1104.(b): Delete this sub-section. It is redundant in that the Office of Administrator of Veterans Affairs is included in Section 1104.(a) above.

This concludes my prepared statement. If you have any questions, we will be delighted to respond to them.

NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION
1325 G STREET N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20576

STATEMENT

of

ROBERT E. GRESHAM
ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS

of the

NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION

before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND MEMORIAL AFFAIRS

on
H.R. 3742

April 21, 1988

Madam chairwoman and members of the committee, my name is Robert E. Gresham. I am the Assistant Executive Director for Operations of the National Capital Planning Commission. Thank you for the opportunity to present the Commission's position on H.R. 3742.

The National Capital Planning Commission, a Federal agency, was mandated by the National Capital Planning Act of 1952 to serve as the central planning agency for the Federal government in the National Capital. The Commission comments and advises upon the location and construction of Federal public buildings in the National Capital and its environs and has "in lieu of zoning" approval over the construction of Federal public buildings in the District of Columbia.

With respect to memorials, the Commission operates under the recently enacted "Commemorative Works Act of 1986," P.L. 99-652. Section 7 of that act gives our

Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts, as well as the Department of the Interior or the General Services Administration, whichever has jurisdiction over the land involved, approval over the site and design of all commemorative works placed on Federal lands in the National Capital Region.

The Commission supports the concept of a memorial, to be approved in accordance with the Commemorative Works Act, to honor members of the Armed Forces who served in World War II and to commemorate the United States' participation in that conflict. We concur with the authors of the legislation that such a memorial is long overdue in the Nation's Capital. The Administration recommends, however, that this bill be amended to prohibit the use of Federal funds in the construction of this new memorial. This revision would make H.R. 3742 consistent with the Commemorative Works Act and would be a fairer treatment of the veterans of the Vietnam and Korean Wars whose private contributions support those memorials.

In spite of our support for the memorial, however, I must express the Commission's opposition to a World War II museum. To our knowledge, there are no existing museums dedicated to a single war in the National Capital Region. We are concerned that establishing such a museum would set a precedent which would lead to other requests for single war memorials. In our view, decisions regarding any further museums in this area should be left to the Smithsonian Institution. On that note, the Administration adds that two of the Smithsonian museums--the National Air and Space Museum and the National Museum of American History--already contain a considerable amount of World War II aircraft, and other World War II artifacts and memorabilia.

The Office of Management and Budget advises that it has no objections to this testimony in terms of the Administration's program.

We have appreciated this opportunity to testify before you today. I would be happy at this time to answer any questions you may have.

STATEMENT OF

NOEL C. WOOSLEY
AMVETS NATIONAL SERVICE DIRECTOR

BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND MEMORIAL AFFAIRS

U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ON

H.R, 3742 Authorization for Establishment of
World War II Memorial and Museum

APRIL 21, 1988

10:00 a.m., Room 334
Cannon House Office Building

Ms. Chairwoman and members of the subcommittee, on behalf of the members of AMVETS, I wish to thank you for this opportunity to express our views regarding the legislative initiative which will serve to immortalize those heroic men and women who gave of themselves in an effort to achieve world peace.

It should be noted that during our National Executive Committee meeting held in Crystal City, Virginia, AMVETS, by unanimous vote, adopted resolution World War II which calls for our dedicated commitment and support to a bill such as H.R. 3742.

RESOLUTION

WORLD WAR II NATIONAL VETERANS' MEMORIAL

WHEREAS, over 16 million Americans served in the Armed Forces during World War II, and over 400,000 gave their lives in defense of world freedom; and

WHEREAS, to date there is no one single national monument to honor all the brave and valiant men and women who served during that conflict; and

WHEREAS, a national memorial to honor those living and deceased veterans seems a fitting tribute from a grateful nation; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, by AMVETS National Executive Committee in assembly April 15, 1988 that an appropriate memorial be created in Washington, DC, to recognize the multiple sacrifices borne by those who served during World War II.

AMVETS therefore enthusiastically supports H.R. 3742 and will be more than willing to do everything possible to insure passage of this or some similar legislation.

This concludes our written statement in support of H.R. 3742 and we would be happy to respond to any questions as pertains to AMVETS position with respect to this legislative matter.

NCOA

Non Commissioned Officers Association of the United States of America

225 N. Washington Street • Alexandria, Virginia 22314 • Telephone (703) 549-0311

APR 04 1988

March 30, 1988

Honorable Marcy Kaptur
Chairwoman
Subcommittee on Housing
  and Memorial Affairs
U.S. House of Representatives
335 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mrs. Kaptur:

Thank you for your kind invitation to appear before the committee as it meets to consider H.R. 3742, a bill to establish a World War II Veterans' Memorial and Museum in Washington, D.C.

NCOA strongly supports the bill and encourages the committee to act swiftly in advancing the proposal. As noted in your letter this is a long overdue and fitting tribute to the more than 16 million Americans who served during this conflict.

The Association is confident that this highly meritorious and non-controversial measure will be approved by the committee. Accordingly, we are pleased to provide this letter of support in lieu of testimony.

Thank you for thinking of NCOA.

Sincerely,

Dick

Richard W. Johnson, Jr.
Director of Legislative Affairs

RWJ/car

The American Legion

For God and Country

★ WASHINGTON OFFICE ★ 1608 "K" STREET, N.W. ★ WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006 ★
(202) 861-2700 ★

April 15, 1988

Honorable Marcy Kaptur, Chairwoman
Committee on Veterans Affairs Subcommittee
on Housing and Memorial Affairs
U.S. House of Representatives
335 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Kaptur:

Thank you for the invitation to testify on H.R. 3742 before your subcommittee on April 21, 1988.

The American Legion, having no mandate from its membership concerning the issue of a World War II Veterans' Memorial is unable to offer testimony at this time. Be assured, however, that The American Legion stands in support of the construction of a fitting memorial to commemorate the millions of Americans who gave of themselves in support of our Nation during World War II.

These soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines are deserving of such recognition. Although nearly 43 years have elapsed since the termination of hostilities in this great war, it's not too late to remind our citizenry of the lasting contributions of these warriors in preserving freedom and opportunity for the entire free world. Their sacrifices, as evidenced by the over 400,000 who gave their lives in the defense of freedom, are worthy of lasting recognition through the establishment of a World War II Veterans Memorial and Museum.

The American Legion fully supports the intent of your legislation to achieve this end.

Sincerely,

Philip Riggin

E. Philip Riggin, Director
National Legislative Commission

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, DC 20310-0103

21 April 1988

Honorable G. V. (Sonny) Montgomery
Chairman
Committee on Veterans' Affairs
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Reference is made to your request to the Secretary of Defense for the views of the Department of Defense on H.R. 3742, 100th Congress, a bill "To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize erection of a memorial and museum on Federal land in the District of Columbia or its environs to honor members of the Armed Forces who served in World War II and to commemorate United States participation in that conflict." The Department of the Army has been assigned responsibility for expressing the views of the Department of Defense on this bill.

The title of the bill states its purpose.

The Department of the Army, on behalf of the Department of Defense, has no objection to the bill to honor members of the Armed Forces because of the many significant contributions they have made to our nation. With respect to specific recommendations concerning this legislation, however, the Department of Defense defers to other Federal agencies such as the National Capital Planning Commission, the Department of the Interior, and the American Battle Monuments Commission.

The fiscal effects of this legislation are not known to the Department of Defense.

This report has been coordinated within the Department of Defense in accordance with procedures by the Secretary of Defense.

Sincerely,

William D. Clark
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary
(Manpower and Reserve Affairs)

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
ESTABLISHED • BY • CONGRESS • MAY • 17, 1910
[illegible] JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. [illegible]
[illegible]

9 May 1988

Dear Mrs. Kaptur:

I am happy to add to the record the Commission's support for H.R. 3742, authorizing a memorial commemorating and honoring Americans who participated in World War II. Such a memorial is long overdue. Our only question is whether a museum should be part and parcel to the memorial, and we tend to think it should not.

Unlike the Holocaust Memorial which seeks to tell a very special story through the museum and is purposefully instructional, or even the Pershing Memorial, which to an extent depicts battle lines and the geographically limited action of the American Expeditionary Forces, a memorial to World War II is different. The geographical perimeters of the effect of the war were virtually unbounded, and the range and variety of services and kinds of military action were so vast as to proscribe any literal kind of message, even through the resources of a very large museum. It simply is too much to encompass.

Also, I believe it can be argued that focusing on the hardware and specific events of an extensive military action, were it possible in fact to do so in a comprehensive way, may very well detract from the historical and human dimensions of the conflict. One can only point to the Vietnam Memorial and question what effect any kind of museum would have on the enormous emotional impact conveyed by this remarkable memorial.

As you may know, a major military museum is at least being contemplated for the Washington area by the Smithsonian. The Navy already has a modest one at the old Navy Yard, also the Marines. The Air Force has a very complete display at Wright Patterson Field in Ohio, and there are in addition all kinds of military museums spread across the country. Therefore there seems to be ample opportunity to tell the specifics of the military history of the second World War -- what is lacking is one national marker in the core of our capital that commemorates these events and the men and women who participated in them. In the Commission's view, this should be found in a single memorial element.

Finally, the Commission is glad to see that the bill provides for public funding. While permitting private gifts, the bulk of the funds will come from appropriations, which is as it should be. The American people as a whole, especially the generations too young to know, owe an enormous debt to those who served and died in World War II, and this is the most appropriate way to make such a statement.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

The Honorable
Marcy Kaptur
Chairwoman
Subcommission on Housing
and Memorial Affairs
335 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

STATEMENT BEFORE
THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND MEMORIAL AFFAIRS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
APRIL 21, 1988

I am Kenneth A. Gaskin, President of Tiara Oil Company and Chairman of the World War II National Victory Memorial Committee, a position I have held since October 1, 1985. My home is Gladwyne, Pennsylvania, the birthplace of General H.H. "Hap" Arnold who commanded the Army Air Forces during World War II. What started as a memorial to General Arnold on his centennial on June 25, 1986 slowly evolved into the National Victory Memorial and so here we are. For your information Gladwyne is on the Philadelphia Main Line and is midway between Independence Hall and Valley Forge.

Madam Chairman, I am pleased to present my views on House Resolution 3742 relating to the World War II National Victory Memorial which you gallantly have initiated. These views reflect my former service beginning in April 1934 in units of the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, the Marine Corps and the Coast Guard and culminating in June 1958 when I retired from the U.S. Air Force.

It is against that background of military experience and it is on behalf of the veterans of World War II that I commend the sponsors of the Bill and especially you and Mrs. Oakar for leading the charge in this commendable undertaking. In doing this you caused men to think about and be grateful to those brave but silent Americans who mothered the World War II fighting forces for it was those women who suffered the greatest pain, and carried the heaviest burden during those decisive years of battle. Truly, as Milton wrote, "they also serve who only stand and wait."

The World War II National Victory Memorial design concept embraces such a thought, hence has five separate free-standing structures (or wings), with a victory tower in the center. Three wings represent the military forces of land, sea, and air and the forth wing represents the home-front production and support forces which provided the arms needed to achieve victory, and the last, but not least, fifth wing represents the Commanders-in-Chief who pulled this nation together and led the combined forces to victory.

This concept departs, as it were, from the practice of building a monument solely as a tribute to the fighting forces. But these veterans have had their share of honors and at this time of life I believe their hearts are big enough and their reach long enough to embrace all who supported "the man behind the man behind the gun" as the WWII song went. For example, Congress recently gave veterans rights to those who served during World War II in the Merchant Marine -- a belated recognition but one which will be appreciated not only by those still living but by the families of those who have passed on.

I turn now to the matter of funding the memorial. We feel that the Victory Tower should be income-producing and its cost amortized over 25 to 50 years, so that by the 100th anniversary it will stand debt-free and proud. The five separate structures, which may serve as museums for equipment and memorabilia could be financed by appropriation and/or private donations.

It is my understanding that Congress recently granted one million dollars for a monument to America's black veterans. A similar grant at this time would provide the World War II National Victory Memorial effort with operating funds not available from Tiara Oil Company, which since October 1, 1985 has underwritten the project.

However, Tiara Oil Company recently was advised of an entitlement from the Department of Energy Special Refund Case HEF-0591 involving $65.7 million which has been set aside for entitlement purposes. I previously pledged that a substantial portion of that refund to Tiara will be donated to the memorial fund and I am hopeful that a number of other petroleum companies will follow suit. Your good fellow-Congressman, John Dingell, who has supported my company in its many transactions with the DOE and Department of Interior beginning in 1966, can provide your committee with more information on that matter. Congressman Dingell, who served in the Army during World War II, along with a number of other WWII veterans of Congress will be invited to a briefing on the WWII National Victory Memorial undertaking in the near future and certainly your Committee is most welcome.

I will conclude by saying that my Committee in concert with the U.S. Postal service and the Armed Forces will honor General H.H. "Hap" Arnold on Saturday, November 5, 1988. Inasmuch as he was the only person ever to attain five-star rank of General of the Army and General of the Air Force, he was selected as the first military veteran to be honored in celebrations leading to the 50th anniversary of victory in 1995. The theme for this first such victory celebration is "Wings Around the World" and a schedule of events will be released shortly. However, in keeping with the concept of the Victory Memorial, November 5, 1988 activities are to pay tribute not only to General Arnold but also to veterans of the Army Air Forces, Navy Air, Marine Air and Coast Guard Air as well as the civilian air units which were active during World War II.

Ms. Kaptur, please rest assured that your committee will have the full support of mine in this Memorial undertaking. We must remember that our national victory in 1945 was the result of combined forces working toward a common goal.

Today we speak of challenging America with the new goal of building a magnificent memorial to the victory which has given us 43 years of peace -- and completing it by 1995.

As in 1945, once again we must not fail.

Thank you very much.

3 Sites Considered for World War II Memorial

By MARIE E. FERREY
Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — Philadelphia, Los Angeles and Washington are being considered as possible sites of a memorial honoring everyone who helped the war effort during World War II.

"The memorial will be a final tribute to all Americans who either served in the military land, sea and air forces or on the home front in the civilian war production and mobilization forces of World War II," said Kenneth Gaskin, chairman of the National Victory Memorial Committee.

The National Victory Memorial will be dedicated in August 1995 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the end of the war, planners said.

The committee will hold a national poll within the next six months so people who participated in the war have an opportunity to take part in the decision.

Once a city is chosen, it will decide the specific location of the memorial.

"We were looking for cities without any tall memorials, but we still considered Washington, D.C., even though they have the Washington Monument, since this is a national memorial," Gaskin said.

The conceptual design of the memorial was unveiled in Chicago last November at the annual meeting of the American Petroleum Institute to highlight the oil industry's contribution to the war effort.

The proposed memorial is a 500-foot pentagonal tower surrounded by three free-standing wings. The wings symbolize the military forces that operated under the Navy and the Army at the time of victory and the civilians who provided the means to win the war.

If Washington is selected as the location for the memorial, the structure would have to be modified to meet the city's height restrictions.

"The committee believes that the National Victory Memorial design rightfully embraces all elements of America's mobilization forces responsible for the successful conclusion of World War II," said Gaskin.

Several veterans' organizations said they strongly supported the idea of having a memorial recognizing World War II veterans since it will serve as a reminder of the victory made possible by the people's contributions to the war effort.

The memorial will house offices, restaurants and other facilities. The proceeds from these will be donated to help the needy among those Americans who participated in World War II, officials of the memorial's foundation said.

The cost of the memorial has not been estimated yet because the height of the tower will not be known until a site is selected. But the committee has already planned a series of balls to raise funds for the memorial.

The first such events will be Nov. 5, 1988, in military clubs and civilian facilities, planners said. They will honor General of the Air Force Henry H. "Hap" Arnold, head of the Army Air Forces in World War II.

SIMILAR ARTICLES IN ARMY AND NAVY TIMES

Air Force Times
An Independent Newspaper Serving Air Force People

©1988 Times Journal Co. JANUARY 4, 1988

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
THE CHIEF OF MILITARY HISTORY AND THE CENTER OF
MILITARY HISTORY
WASHINGTON, DC 20314-0200

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

June 20, 1988

Museum Branch

Honorable Marcy Kaptur
Chairwoman, Subcommittee on
  Housing and Memorial Affairs
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

JUN 2 - 1988

Dear Ms. Kaptur:

Thank you for your letter of June 3, 1988, regarding a proposed memorial and museum for World War II veterans.

With the Vietnam Memorial in place and the Korean War Memorial in progress, it would seem most fitting that the veterans of World War II be honored by an appropriate memorial in our nation's capital.

I am, however, less enthusiastic about the proposal for a World War II museum. The existing Navy and Marine Corps museums in the Washington Navy Yard as well as the Smithsonian treat this subject as will the proposed National Museum of the United States Army. It would seem to me to be a far better option to support those programs rather than begin another museum with an overlapping theme.

Sincerely,

William A. Stofft
Brigadier General, U. S. Army
Chief of Military History

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

IN REPLY REFER TO
5755
Ser 09BH/NHC 505620
22 June 1988

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur
Chairwoman
Subcommittee on Housing and Memorial Affairs
House of Representatives
Committee on Veteran's Affairs
335 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Kaptur:

This is in reply to your letter of June 3, 1988 concerning the proposed legislation for a World War II museum and memorial.

I share your concern with ensuring that future generations of Americans understand and appreciate the significance of World War II to the United States and are aware of the many positive contributions and sacrifices of American men and women in that great conflict. I wonder whether you would not agree, however, that a great deal has already been done, both in the Washington area and throughout the country to commemorate and document the story of our country's experience in World War II. In the Washington area alone, we have the Navy Memorial, the Iwo Jima Memorial and memorials to several Army units. In the Navy Museum here at the Naval Historical Center we are completing work on a major 11,000 square foot exhibit which will tell the story of the Navy in World War II through nearly 1,500 artifacts and photographs. The Air Force museum, Marine Corps museum, and Coast Guard Museum also have major exhibits devoted to World War II.

Throughout the nation there are a number of other fine museums and memorials devoted to World War II. To take only those with a naval emphasis, there is the Nimitz Museum in Fredericksburg, Texas; the Naval Aviation Museum in Pensacola, Florida; and a large number of museum/memorial ships such as, the battleships MASSACHUSETTS, TEXAS, and NORTH CAROLINA located in the states of those names and the carriers INTREPID (New York City) and YORKTOWN (Charleston).

It seems to me that the documentation of World War II might be better served by assistance to and coordination among these many fine institutions than by undertaking to begin still another museum from scratch.

I would be glad to discuss my views with you in more detail should you think it useful.

Sincerely,

Ronald H. Spector
Director
Naval Historical Center

Copy to:
OLA

JUN 27 1988

HOOVER INSTITUTION
ON WAR, REVOLUTION AND PEACE
Stanford, California 94305-6010

June 24, 1988

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur
Chairwoman
Subcommittee on History and Memorial Affairs
Committee on Veterans' Affairs
U.S. House of Representatives
335 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mrs. Kaptur,

I hope you will forgive me that I am so late in responding to your interesting and thoughtful letter of June 3, 1988. I wanted to have the chance to consult with at least some of my military historian friends and colleagues, before replying.

You probably will not be very pleased with my answer, but I want to assure you that my colleagues and I have given it careful consideration. It seems to us that a memorial and museum to the members of the Armed Forces who served in World War II is not really needed in Washington now, since there are of course Arlington, the Armed Forces Hall at the Smithsonian, the Navy Museum, the Marine Corps Museum and the National Guard Museum already in place.

But we are very appreciative of your thoughts of how best to teach about the Second World War and make known its causes, history, progression and final results, particularly to young people. As a fitting and lasting tribute to the members of the Armed Forces who served in that war, would it be possible to establish and endow a World War II curator chair at the Smithsonian, endow some 12 World War II history chairs at 12 geographically spread universities, and establish and endow a World War II photograph archivist chair at the Library of Congress?.

It seems to us that you and your Committee might wish to take these proposals also under advisement, possibly in place of a museum.

I hope that you and the members of your Congressional Delegation spent an interesting and memorable time at the dedication in Caen. I would certainly be most eager to learn of your impressions.

Very sincerely yours,

Agnes F. Peterson

Agnes F. Peterson
Curator
Central and Western European Collections

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

July 6, 1988

Honorable Marcy Kaptur
Chairwoman, Subcommittee on Housing
  and Memorial Affairs
Committee on Veterans' Affairs
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Madam Chairwoman:

I share your concern that current, as well as future, generations know and appreciate the history of World War II. In so many ways, scientifically, technologically, economically, socially, politically, and diplomatically, World War II marks the great watershed of our century. It was truly one of the most formative periods of all American history. As such, any insightful history of World War II, with its explicit or implied lessons, is bound to be highly controversial. An official World War II historical museum sponsored by the Federal Government will certainly come under the scrutiny of numerous interest groups.

Given the importance of the Manhattan Project during World War II, the Department of Energy would be interested in offering advice or guidance to World War II museum curators, especially concerning displays depicting activities at our historic facilities at Los Alamos, Oak Ridge, or Hanford. We have provided similar professional guidance to the Department's historical museums depicting the development of the atomic bomb and to the Battle of Normandy Museum in Caen, France.

We wish you well on this endeavor and would be willing to answer additional questions you might have.

Sincerely,

Jack M. Holl
Chief Historian

cc:
Honorable Dan Burton
Ranking Minority Member
Subcommittee on Housing
  and Memorial Affairs
Committee on Veterans' Affairs
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

S

JUN 20 1988

Brig Gen J.L. Collins, Jr (Ret)
Zulla Vineyards
Middleburg, VA 22117-1331

Ms. Marcy Kaptur
Chairwoman, Subcommittee
on Housing + Memorial Affairs
Committee on Veterans Affairs
US House of Representatives
Washington DC 20515

17 June 88

Dear Ms Kaptur -

It was a great pleasure to meet you in Caen at the dedication of the Battle of Normandy Museum. You were very kind in your comments to me on the 7th of June in the museum and I am afraid I must have seemed rather brusque to you as your words reminded me of my many friends lost in that war (and other wars) and I turned away to hide the outpouring of emotion - traditionally considered inappropriate for a member of the military. I apologize.

On my return here I found your letter of the 3rd of June asking for my comments on your proposal for the establishment of a memorial and museum to honor members of the Armed Forces who served in World War. It seems to be an excellent idea and I have no thoughts which you have not already covered in the wording of the bill. Having been involved in overseeing over a period of a dozen years the some sixty museums in the Army I would stress that the maintenance and operating funds for the Memorial and museum are a prime concern. If these funds cannot be reasonably ~~to~~ foreseen for the long term it is better not to build the edifice. I think your idea of putting it under the American Battle Monuments Commission is an excellent one for several reasons. First, they have had experience of many years duration in obtaining and expending funds for Memorial Purposes and Second, the tastefulness and artistic merit as well as the relevance of their memorials is outstanding. The one at Omaha Beach which I'm sure you saw is a prime example.

In sum, I support your proposal as set forth in HR 3742 wholeheartedly. If I can be of assistance, you have but to let me know.

With warm good wishes

Most Sincerely

James L Collins, Jr

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY
Mississippi State, Mississippi 39762

Department of History
Phone 601-325-3604

June 14, 1988

Representative Marcy Kaptur
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Representative Kaptur:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter of June 3. The concept of a fitting memorial for those who served in World War II will be fulfilled superbly with the erection of a memorial and museum in Washington. Though the phrase is used too much, it surely fits this project: it is long overdue.

I hope you will bear in mind two groups who should be included at the appropriate steps in this venture:

(1) Experienced professional archivists and curators, especially with military history expertize, to help plan and to administer the memorial and museum;
(2) Members of the American Committee on the History of the Second World War to serve on the advisory boards or committees of the memorial and museum.

The American Committee on the History of the Second World War is the principal professional society in this country in that field. It is affiliated with the International Committee on the History of the Second World War, which has several dozen affiliated national societies.

I hope the Caen museum festivities went well. I am on the board of historians for the Normandy Memorial but was unable to make the journey. Best wishes.

Sincerely,

D. Clayton James
Giles Distinguished Professor

University of New Orleans
Lakefront • New Orleans • Louisiana 70148 • (504) 286-6611

STEPHEN E. AMBROSE
ALUMNI DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR

June 21

Dear Chairwoman Kaptur:

I have your letter of June 3, with regard to H.R. 3742. Although you indicated you have received a number of suggestions and asked me to comment on them, there was no enclosure in your letter, so I cannot comment.

However, I have read H.R. 3742 and am strongly in favor of it. I note especially and with great satisfaction that the American Battle Monuments Commission will be in charge. If you will look at page 670-71 of volume II of my biography of Eisenhower, you will find a long letter from Ike to Lyndon Johnson on the American Battle Monuments Commission. I would associate myself with the remarks Ike made in that letter with regard to the Commission.

As Washington, D.C., was the center of the American effort in World War II, I think it highly appropriate that the museum for the war be located there.

In Overloon, Holland, the Dutch have their national war museum. I urge you to visit it. It seems to me to be the best World War II museum I have seen (and I dare say I've seen all the major ones). It is quite different from the Imperial War Museum in London, or the Musee d'Armie in Paris, as they cover all their nations' wars.

In somewhat the same way, the Smithsonian does a good job of covering American wars (although it is not so complete as one might wish), but a museum dedicated to the World War II experience is quite a different thing.

To sum up, I'm all for it, and wish you well, and will do anything I can to help you along.

Sincerely,

Stephen E. Ambrose

Chairwoman March Kaptur
Subcommittee on Housing and Memorial Affairs
Committee on Veterans' Affairs
U.S. House of Representatives

John S. D. Eisenhower
P. O. Box 2256
West Chester, Pennsylvania 19380-0101

JUN 16 1988

June 10, 1988

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur
Committee on Veterans Affairs
US House of Representatives
335 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Kaptur:

Thank you for your letter of June, 1988. I appreciate your courtesy in soliciting my views on HR 3742. I have only one suggestion.

In 1975 I was the chairman of the President's Advisory Committee on Refugees, a group of about twenty-five private citizens of some note - George Meany, Father Hesburgh, John Denver, etc. The committee was assembled principally to demonstrate public support for President Ford's program of admitting some 150,000 Vietnamese refugees into the United States. It was a good concept, by and large.

However, the committee was given no authority at all and it was, frankly, treated with near contempt by the responsible governmental agency. It was allocated no funds and given no cooperation. It would have been better if the committee had been disbanded the moment its members stepped down from the stage in the East Room of the White House.

Based on that experience, it seems as if the bill might give the committee some specific responsibility, if none other than to be available to report its views to the appropriate committee of the Congress. Real authority must of course remain with Battle Monuments. But the members of the committee will no doubt take their role seriously, and any way you can give them some clout would be helpful.

Sincerely,

John Eisenhower

Dwight D. Eisenhower Library
Abilene, Kansas 67410

June 16, 1988

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur, Chairwoman
Subcommittee on Housing and Memorial Affairs
U.S. House of Representatives
335 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Kaptur:

This is in reply to your letter of June 6, which arrived while you and I were having dinner at Cabourg. It was good to be with you during the dedication of the Battle of Normandy Museum. I only wish we would have had more time to discuss H.R. 3742. I really have not had time to think about the proposed memorial. I will be glad to do that, but I would also like to make a suggestion.

JUN 20 1988

As you may know, the National Archives and Records Administration has the largest amount of documentation on the history of World War II of any agency in the federal government. The material is housed in the Mondern Military Records in Washington, D.C., as well as in the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library and Museum, the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library and Museum in Hyde Park, New York, and the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum in Independence, Missouri. I think it would be extremely advantageous to your committee if all the human resources in these institutions were utilized. For coordination, the persons to contact are Dr. Don W. Wilson, Archivist of the United States, and Mr. John Fawcett, Assistant Archivist for Presidential Libraries.

Also, I would like to pose a question. Is H.R. 3742 similar to earlier legislation proposed about ten years ago that would provide for a major militiary museum under the auspices of the Smithsonian Institution in the Washington, D.C. area? For some reason, the earlier museum which was authorized by Congress, has never been built and I have seen nothing more on the subject. I am wondering if these two activities are the same, or two completely different projects. I will continue to think about a suitable memorial and museum. However, I think your cause will best be served if you contact the Archivist of the United States.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

John E. Wickman

JOHN E. WICKMAN, Director
Dwight D. Eisenhower Library

JOHN TOLAND
1 LONG RIDGE ROAD
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

June 12, 1988

JUN 17 1988

Marcy Kaptur, Chairwoman,
Subcommittee on Housing and Memorial Affairs,
335 Cannon House Office Building,
Washington, D.C. 20515.

Dear Ms. Kaptur:

Thank you for your letter of June 3. I heartily endorse your memorial and musem project. The men who fought in WWII should never be forgotten and I have devoted many years of my life writing about them.

I have no suggestion except to get this thingdone so the survivers of theat war can visit it.

When you finish this please get to work on a Korean War monument and museum. Those poor devils have nothing to show for the terrible years they had to spend in a conflict that was largely ignored by the American public.

Cordially,

John Toland

AMERICAN COMMITTEE ON THE HISTORY OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR

Arthur L. Funk, *Chairman*
Professor Emeritus of History
University of Florida
3445 N.W. 30th Boulevard
Gainesville, Florida 32605

Permanent Directors

Charles F. Delzell
Vanderbilt University

H. Stuart Hughes
University of California
at San Diego

Forrest C. Pogue
Dwight D. Eisenhower Institute

Terms expiring 1988

Brig. Gen James L. Collins, Jr
Chief of Military History (ret.)

John Lewis Gaddis
Ohio University

Robin Higham
Kansas State University

D. Clayton James
Mississippi State University

Agnes F. Peterson
Hoover Institution

Brig. Gen. Edwin H. Simmons
Marine Corps History and
Museums

David F. Trask
Center of Military History

Russell F. Weigley
Temple University

Terms expiring 1989

Martin Blumenson
Washington, D.C.

William H. Cunliffe
National Archives

Stanley L. Falk
Center of Military History (ret.)

Maurice Matloff
Center of Military History (ret.)

Ernest R. May
Harvard University

Ronald H. Spector
Naval Historical Center

Gerhard L. Weinberg
University of North Carolina

Earl F. Ziemke
University of Georgia

Terms expiring 1990

Dean C. Allard
Naval Historical Center

Stephen E. Ambrose
University of New Orleans

Harold C. Deutsch
Army War College and
University of Minnesota (emer.)

David Kahn
Great Neck, N.Y.

Warren F. Kimball
Rutgers University

Telford Taylor
New York City

Robert Wolfe
National Archives

Janet Ziegler
University of California
at Los Angeles

Donald S. Detwiler, *Secretary and Newsletter Editor*
Department of History
Southern Illinois University
at Carbondale
Carbondale, Illinois 62901

Robin Higham, *Archivist*
Department of History
Kansas State University
Manhattan, Kansas 66506

International Book Review Coordinator:

Arthur L. Funk
3445 N.W. 30th Boulevard
Gainesville, Florida 32605

The ACHSWW is affiliated with:

American Historical Association
400 A Street, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20003

Comité International
d'Histoire de la Deuxième
Guerre Mondiale
A. Harry Paape, *Secretary General and Treasurer*
Netherlands State Institute
for War Documentation
Herengracht 474
1017 CA Amsterdam
The Netherlands

21 June 1988

JUN [illegible] 1988

Ms Marcy Kaptur
US House of Representatives
335 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Kaptur:

We met briefly during the ceremonies inaugurating the Normandy Memorial Museum at Caen. But we did not have the opportunity of discussing your project.

I do have, however, a letter which came while I was in France, dated 3 June, which enclosed a copy of H. R. 3742, and in which you asked for reactions and comments. In April the executive director of the American Historical Association, Samuel Gammon, called me regarding our reaction to a proposed World War II memorial. I assume his query was on your behalf, and he may have forwarded to you my response, a copy of which I am in any case enclosing.

Many of us have long wondered about the lack of memorials or museums devoted to this nation's wars. There are of course many small museums at Army bases and presidential libraries, a naval museum in Washington, and some exhibits in the Smithsonian. For World War II there is planned, I believe, a Holocaust museum, and a museum on Intelligence. There is a small memorial to Franklin D. Roosevelt in front of the National Archives.

Please be assured that our organization is very interested in the possibility of a World War II museum, and we will do whatever historians can do to help the project.

Very sincerely yours,

Arthur L. Funk

encl.

Arthur L. Funk
Chairman

RICAN COMMITTEE ON THE HISTORY OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR

rman
e of History
rida
. Boulevard
lorida 32605

rectors

Delzell
ilt University

t Hughes
ersity of California
at San Diego

rest C. Pogue
Dwight D. Eisenhower Institute

Terms expiring 1987

Dean C. Allard
Naval History Division

Philip A. Crowl
Naval War College (ret.)

Brig. Gen. A. F. Hurley, USAF (ret.)
North Texas State University

David Kahn
Great Neck, N.Y.

Warren F. Kimball
Rutgers University

Richard H. Kohn
Office of Air Force History

Roberta Wohlstetter
Pan Heuristics, Los Angeles

Robert Wolfe
National Archives

Janet Ziegler
University of California
at Los Angeles

Terms expiring 1988

Brig. Gen James L. Collins, Jr.
Chief of Military History (ret.)

John Lewis Gaddis
Ohio University

Robin Higham
Kansas State University

D. Clayton James
Mississippi State University

Agnes F. Peterson
Hoover Institution

Brig. Gen. Edwin H. Simmons
Marine Corps History and
Museums

David F. Trask
Center of Military History

Russell F. Weigley
Temple University

Terms expiring 1989

Martin Blumenson
Washington, D.C.

William H. Cunliffe
National Archives

Stanley L. Falk
Center of Military History (ret.)

Maurice Matloff
Center of Military History (ret.)

Ernest R. May
Harvard University

Ronald H. Spector
Naval Historical Center

Gerhard L. Weinberg
University of North Carolina

Earl F. Ziemke
University of Georgia

Donald S. Detwiler, *Secretary*
and Newsletter Editor
Department of History
Southern Illinois University
at Carbondale
Carbondale, Illinois 62901

Robin Higham, *Archivist*
Department of History
Kansas State University
Manhattan, Kansas 66506

International Book
Review Coordination

Arthur L. Funk
3445 N.W. 30th Boulevard
Gainesville, Florida 32605

The ACHSWW is affiliated with:

American Historical Association
400 A Street, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20003

Comité International
d'Histoire de la Deuxième
Guerre Mondiale
Jean Vanwelkenhuyzen, *Président*
Belgian Centre for Research
and Studies on the History
of the Second World War
Place de Louvain 4 - bte 20
1000 Brussels, Belgium

16 April 1988

Ambassador Samuel Gannon
American Historical Association
400 A Street SE
Washington, DC 20003

Dear Ambassador Gammon:

In connection with your recent query in regard to a World War II memorial, our Committee would indeed welcome any legitimate activity--memorials, museums, libraries, study centers--which would help bring recollections and information to future generations.

The Committee would be happy to attempt to answer queries about the war, or direct people to experts in particular aspects of the war, but we are not organized to participate directly in commemoration of the war.

A precedent exists in our relationship to the US Committee for the Battle of Normandy museum, soon to be dedicated in Caen. While we have no direct connection with the Normandy Committee, we have a great interest in the "Board of Historians" which has been formed to advise on technical and historical matters. Two of our board members (General Collins and myself) serve on the board as chairman and secretary, and other members of our directors (checked on the left) are members. If the organizers of the proposed World War II Memorial would see the usefulness of such a group of advisers, we would be most ready to cooperate.

Very sincerely,

Arthur L. Funk

Arthur L. Funk

cc: Prof. D.S. Detwiler
Encl: List of members of the Battle of Normandy
"Board of Historians"